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IN WHICH KYLE'S LIFE **DECISIONS MAKE** SHANNON CRY PAGE 21

Catholic schools packed: Officials

Calgary Catholic School District representatives believe their classrooms are now essentially full for the first time in the district's 128-year history PAGE 8

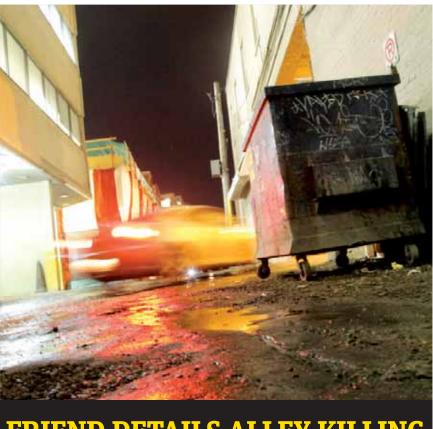
Tides changing, but not in the metaphorical sense

Man who claimed climate-change refugee status denied because he was not personally persecuted PAGE 13

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DETAILS ALLEY

For the first time, Metro speaks to someone who watched a Calgary teen beaten and stabbed to death in this alley. A friend of Lukas Strasser-Hird recalls the bloody attack. See story on page 4. BRYAN WEISMILLER/METRO

CBE spends tens of thousands on 'high-stakes' firm

'Fishy.' School board already employs 23 communications staff

Calgary's public school board has paid tens of thousands of dollars to a self-proclaimed "high-stakes communications firm" despite already having nearly two dozen staff within its own ranks to handle communications work.

Metro has learned that the Calgary Board of Education first engaged Navigator, a wellknown organization operating throughout Canada, in 2012.

Sources have said that, in some months, roughly \$10,000 was being paid to the organization, which was involved in numerous consultations with board executives and had also developed a strategy for training trustees and staff to properly work with the media.

But the board maintained in a statement given to Metro Oct. 30 that services provided by Navigator were "provided in the context of our solici-tor-client relationship" and because the money for the firm was delivered under the board's legal services budget, the amount paid "will not be discussed."

Derek Fildebrandt with the Canadian Taxpayers Federation said the board's relationship with Navigator appears "fishy," adding he suspects they pay for the firm's services out of the legal budget to avoid inquiries made using Alberta's Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. Fildebrandt said he finds the size of the communications staff employed by the CBE to be large as it is and questioned why they would need to engage a outside firm.

"It's mind-boggling . . . that's

more people than the communications office for the Premier of Alberta and probably somewhere in the neighbourhood of the Prime Minister's office's communications staff," he said, adding, "you'd think with that number of staff, they wouldn't need to hire outside

Late Tuesday, the board said legal services costs were folded into the budget of Chief Superintendent Naomi Johnson and a specific breakdown for the department was not available. The board said its legal costs, however, were lower in 2013-14 than 2012-13, but again provided no numbers.

Navigator's website outlines services it provides, including "issues management, crisis response, and reputation recovery," as well as "government relations" and "activation and persuasion campaigns."

IEREMY NOLAIS/METRO



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App on the agenda. Real-time bus locater by late 2014

Calgarians should be able to track the real-time location of buses on their smartphones by late 2014, according to the director of Calgary Transit.

'We're currently in the process of installing equipment on all of our buses that track in real-time, through GPS, the location of those buses," director Doug Morgan told council Tuesday, in response to a question from Coun. Evan Ŵoolley.

Customers might notice the equipment on buses right away, Morgan added, but there's still a "testing phase" that needs to take place, likely in early 2014, before the technology is made widely available to transit riders.

"Our plan is to roll it out to the public in the third quarter of next year," Morgan said. "Also, in parallel, we're redoing our website, which will include the development of a new app for Calgary Transit customers, along with the private ones that have already been developed. So we think by the end of next year, you'll start to see those in the hands of customers.'

Mayor Naheed Nenshi called the information "great news."

"I actually believe that real-time information, especially on buses, accessible on your smartphone, is an absolute game-changer," Nenshi said. "I think it completely changes how people access the system, how they think about the system, and how they think about reliability. And I could not be more excited about that.'



Increase in transit and peace officers

Not a slam dunk.

Council debates merits of adding more service hours, given past experience



ROBSON FLETCHER

Calgarians will see more frequent buses in some areas, brand new bus routes in proved all the proposed transportation budget adjustments Tuesday.

"The service adjustments are aligned with what Calgarians told us are most important to them," transportation general manager Mac Logan said.

The increases include 55,000 more transit service hours, 10,000 more Access Calgary trips for the disabled, and the addition of eight peace officers and one inspector to boost security.

The cost will be covered

Still, some councillors were unsure if adding more service hours was necessarily the best way to go, as opposed to reallocating service from less-used routes to more popular ones.

Coun. Andre Chabot noted that, after adding 130,000 service hours in 2008 and 200,000 in 2009, "ridership actually went down over the course of the next three

"The opposite is also true," Mayor Naheed Nenshi noted. "We removed hours in 2012, tween service hours invested and ridership is "complicated" and depends on many factors, but noted the use of transit is at historic highs.

"October was our best month ever at 10 million passengers in a single month," he said.

Transit maintains a list of the 10 worst-performing routes, Morgan added, and "we will be constantly looking to reallocate those (resources) to higher-productivity routes."

The last time transit added time positions.



metronews.ca
Wednesday, November 27, 2013

Murder victim's friend describes bloody beating

Bar brawl. Two people have been charged in the death of Lukas Strasser-Hird, who died last weekend of injuries



Positioned behind a swarming mob, Bryce Sunberg says he felt helpless as attackers stomped his friend's face.

In Sunberg's account of last weekend's deadly bar brawl, the fight had already spilled into the alleyway when he and two others found Lukas Strasser-Hird cornered next to a dumpster by more than a dozen opponents.

He and two friends tried to break up the melee.

"When we got there he was already on the ground," Sunberg said of Strasser-Hird

"I was trying to get them away from kicking his face and didn't see that he had been stabbed.

"I thought the blood on his shirt was from his mouth and his nose."

At some point, Sunberg says he stepped out of the fracas to phone 911. How-



ever, a police officer was there before he even finished the call.

Strasser-Hird was taken to the Foothills Hospital, but he succumbed to his injuries.

"I don't think we could've done anymore," Sunberg recalled Tuesday. "People were throwing punches.... I think we would've been stabbed and beaten." He indicated the first fight had started with a "misunderstanding" at Vinyl Retro Lounge on 10th Avenue SW, where friends met to celebrate Strasser-Hird's homecoming from Bolivia.

The group was allegedly targeted and chased down when they tried getting back to their car that was parked across the street from the Beltline bar

Investigators believe up to 10 people were involved in the savage beating. Two people have been charged to date.

Police announced earlier this week they'd charged 19-year-old Nathan Paul Gervais with first-degree murder and Franz Emir Cabrera with second-degree murder.

Strasser-Hird's family declined requests to discuss the ongoing investigation in more detail Tuesday.

Father Dale Hird told Metro he was "just a completely destroyed human being."

"I have a nine-year-old girl here whose life is destroyed and heart is broken," he said, referring to Strasser-Hird's younger sister. "How do I help her when mine is teo?"

WITH FILES FROM JEREMY NOLAIS

Riders with disabilities

Council may reform transit rule

Lucy Fowler hopes city council will unanimously support a motion on Monday that would put an end to what she describes as an arbitrary, unfair and regressive policy that places one more hurdle in front of people already struggling with mobility challenges.

"We're the only municipality in the country of our size and stature that has such a rule," Fowler said of the so-called "one-kilometre" policy of Access Calgary, which provides door-to-door service to roughly 15,000 city residents with disabilities.

For trips within one kilometre of a bus stop, the cost is \$3 — the regular fare. For pickups or dropoffs outside that radius, however, riders face a \$20 fee

"For some people that fee is quite significant," said Fowler, whose disabled sister relies on the service. "Most people who are using Access Calgary are on AISH (Assured Income for the Severely Handicapped) or low-income and simply can't afford that."

Coun. Richard Pootmans and Coun. Brian Pincott plan to introduce a motion on Dec. 2 to scrap the rule. "It's just a matter of fairness," Pootmans said. "It just seems like it's the right thing to do. It's as simple as that." ROBSON FLETCHER/METRO







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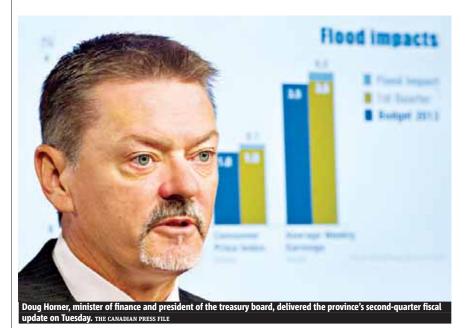
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Unexpected gains, unexpected losses

Provincial budget.

Minister savs boosted oil royalties will help offset flood costs, but opposition points out billions in borrowing

Alberta's budget is doing much better than expected this year, but any gains will be offset by the costs from last summer's catastrophic floods, Finance Minister Doug Horner said Tuesday.

"Alberta has turned a corner despite challenges and because of the new course we set out on budget 2013,"

Derek Fildebrandt of the Canadian Taxpayers Federation pegs the deficit at \$2.3 billion.

Horner said as he revealed the mid-point update for the current fiscal year.

The year's budget originally forecast a deficit of \$451 million for day-to-day operational spending, but higher-than-expected oil royalties have morphed that number into a \$1-billion surplus, Horner said.

But the government still

expects to be about even at the end of the year due to the millions of dollars needed to help southern Alberta recover from the floods, he said.

Opposition politicians suggested Horner's rosy financial picture is a mirage because he isn't including billions of dollars the government is borrowing to pay for new roads, schools, hospitals and other infrastructure.

The government plans to borrow a total of \$17 billion by 2016.

The opposition said the government is on track to run a consolidated deficit of more than \$2 billion when the borrowing figure is included.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Condo ramps up safety after homeless pair get run over

New signs and brighter lights are being put up in a Beltline parking garage after two homeless people were run over while trying to escape the recent cold snap.

The parking garage is located right across the street from Calgary Alpha House, a homeless shelter that's been filled to capacity in recent

Police were twice called to Vetro condo's underground parkade near 15th Avenue and 1st Street SE within a twoweek span this month.

"They were leaning against

the wall, they fell asleep and their legs were sticking out on the grate," said Const. Simon Staples. "Then the truck drives over them because (the driver) can't see them."

Kathy Christiansen, the shelter's executive director, was careful not to link her organization's clientele to the incidents.

Christiansen, however, acknowledged the flood-stricken shelter is still getting up to snuff and has seen a surge of needy Calgarians affected by June's historic deluge.

An average of 20 people

One victim suffered a broken leg while the other walked away relatively uninjured, according to police.

are being turned away nightly. "Definitely, we've seen

more people sleeping outside," she told Metro.

"It's safer to be inside at night. We know the consequences of sleeping outside in the winter."

BRYAN WEISMILLER/METRO



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metronews.ca Wednesday, November 27, 2013

Calgary's Catholic schools nearing full

Commutes coming. More kids likely to ride bus out of community



Officials with the Calgary Catholic School District believe their schools are now essentially full for the first time in the district's 128-year history

Chief Supt. Gary Strother said while the organization is still awaiting definitive numbers from the province, it believes its system-wide school utilization has hit 85 per cent and will continue rising in the years ahead.

The district generally considers a school at capacity at



85 per cent because it has to reserve some space for libraries, gymnasiums and other ancillary space.

In some schools, Strother said even those areas are being diminished, as some schools have divided off half of their library for use as a classroom.

"When you look at some of the areas that we're in right now, it's absolutely amazing how fast they're growing, especially in the deep southeast of Calgary," Strother said, adding, "If your schools are full, then kids will be leaving the community and that's always the biggest challenge."

The district has set up meetings with the communities at six particularly squeezed city schools this month and next to set out

proper measures to control enrolment in the years ahead

"We try to keep families together as much as we possibly can . . . we try to keep people in their communities as much as we can and then we look at limiting future kindergarten enrolment feeding into those schools, so that we're not over-exceeding," Strother said.

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Countdown signals. Calgary roads director wants them at 'almost every' intersection



Calgary's director of roads wants to see countdown signals for pedestrians installed across the city.

"We've been trying to have every almost every signalized intersection with a pedestrian countdown timer in the city," Ryan Jestin told city council Tuesday. "We're just not there vet"

Currently, just shy of 200 intersections are equipped with the signals that count down the number of seconds pedestrians have to safely cross the street.

The city has already met its previously set target for such signal devices, but Jestin asked council to boost that target.

"Is that really worth the cost?" Mayor Naheed Nenshi asked.

Jestin replied that the cost is minimal when done "as part of our normal maintenance" on traffic signals.

Coun. Brian Pincott inquired about a study published last month that found count-down timers actually led to an increase in collisions in Toronto, but Jestin said he's seen no increase in "safety issues" in Calgary and he supports the devices.

"I do think it helps both those people that are stopped at the sides of one intersection or another, in terms of knowing approximately how long until (the light is) going to change," he said. "Also, from a pedestrian perspective, it gives a good sense of how much longer they've got to cross the road." ROBSON FLETCHER/METRO

CORRECTION NOTICE

The Jeep Sales Event ad appearing in the November 27th issue of this newspaper incorrectly states that the 2014 Jeep Grand Cherokee SRT with option equipment shown has a price of \$48,315. The correct price for the 2014 Jeep Grand Cherokee with optional equipment shown is \$64,690. We are sorry for any inconvenience this error may have caused.

Calgary woman found guilty of infanticide



'I wasn't normal.'

Murder conviction not warranted, evidence showed her mind was disturbed: Judge

A woman accused in the deaths of two of her newborns who were thrown into garbage bins has been found not guilty of second-degree murder, but has been convicted on the lesser charge of infanticide.

Court of Queen's Bench Justice Peter McIntyre said there was evidence to suggest that Meredith Borowiec's mind was disturbed after giving birth, so a murder conviction wasn't warranted.

"The Crown has proven beyond a reasonable doubt the accused wilfully caused the death of two of her newly born children by abandoning them," McIntyre ruled Tuesday.

"The Crown has failed to prove beyond a reasonable doubt that when the accused caused their deaths, her mind was not disturbed from the effects of giving birth to them."

In interviews with police in November 2011, Borowiec, now 32, said she heard a noise "like a kitten" after the birth of the first child and, the following year, was aware the second child was alive as well.

"It was a tiny cry," a tearful Borowiec said in the video as she described the noise coming from the toilet. "It was like something took over me. It was like I wasn't in control. I wasn't normal."

Infanticide carries a maximum of five years behind bars.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

Northern Alta. Research aims to use eyes in the sky to help life on the ground

An ambitious three-year research project is using eyes in the sky to produce what may be the clearest picture yet of the impact of the energy and forestry industries on threatened wildlife in northern Alberta.

High-resolution satellite images together with information from industry will also yield the first data on what effects snowmobiles and off-roaders are having on caribou, grizzlies and wolves.

"We're going to let the animals tell us when they're no longer disturbed," said biologist Gordon Stenhouse, who's overseeing the research.

Stenhouse and his fellow scientists will start with data from energy and forestry companies that details all their activities, including disturbances such as cutblocks, seismic lines and lease roads. That information will be combined with wildlife tracking information from GPS-fitted collars.

"We have all this incredibly

About \$500K in funding

- Research suggests that caribou avoid being within 500 metres of any disturbed area, meaning even a narrow road cuts a one-kilometre swath through the bush.
- The project is being funded for about \$500,000 from industry, government and environmental groups.

detailed GPS data," Stenhouse said. "We get a reading from them every hour as to where they are on the landscape."

The problem has been that knowing an animal's location says little about how it's responding to disturbances on the landscape unless it's known what the condition of that landscape was at the time the animals passed through.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Harsh and excessive?

Food tamperer loses appeal

A woman jailed for putting pins, needles and nails into food items at a Calgary grocery store is not getting a break on her sentence.

The Alberta Court of Appeal has found no fault in the three years handed to Tatyana Granada after she was convicted in 2012.

Her lawyer had argued that the sentence was harsh and excessive for a first conviction.

Granada was found guilty of mischief and trespassing for putting the sharp items into bread, cheese and produce at the Oakridge Co-op store in the city's southwest.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Murder trial

She knew gun was loaded, jury told

Jurors have begun deliberations in the trial of an Alberta woman accused of killing her husband.

Heather Wilson Duncan, 63, is charged with seconddegree murder in the death of Barry Duncan in their home near Sundre in 2010. Duncan testified that she and her husband had been drinking heavily and got into an argument when he brought out a shotgun and urged her to shoot him. She told a 911 dispatcher that she didn't realize the gun was loaded. The Crown argued that Duncan is heard telling 911 that her husband had told her it was loaded. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Wednesday, November 27, 2013



CBE had 5 breaches of confidentiality this year: Report

Security. Board says third-party providers to blame in all instances, but 'CBE takes responsibility'



NOLAIS
ieremv.nolais@metronews.ca

Calgary's public school board says it's working hard to prevent future confidentiality breaches after information about employees was shared inappropriately five times from March to August.

Administrators with the

Administrators with the Calgary Board of Education revealed the errors in a report to trustees debated in a meeting Tuesday evening.

In March, a third-party provider conducted an employee satisfaction survey without approval from top executives.

Then, in April, there were two breaches after an employee's vacation-payout request was sent in error to a former employee and a staff member received an employment letter belonging to a peer.

In July, information was sent to CBE employees containing information requested privately by a peer. And in August, confidential information was faxed to an incorrect number.

Trustee chair Sheila Taylor said the breaches are "concerning."

ing,"
"What we've been ensured is that's going to be looked at and that's going to come before the board again.... We had assurance (from administration) that's there's recognition

of the issues and a plan to deal with it," Taylor said.

In the report, the board stated all errors came through the work of third-party providers and added, "CBE takes responsibility for these breaches, ensuring actions are taken by the provider to resolve the issue at hand and to mitigate against repeat occurrences."

The board already faced intense scrutiny from two trustees last year, including Taylor, who found their own personal information was published during a release of expense documents.

The board also saw a computer containing student report-card information stolen in October 2012. At the time, Chief Supt. Naomi Johnson said the organization was working on a \$1-million initiative to encrypt all the CBE's digital data.

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Drug-cartel's teen killer back in U.S.



Crime. 17-year-old released from prison after serving time for committing murders for Mexican cartel

After finishing the maximum sentence for a juvenile in Morelos, Mexico, Edgar Jimenez Lugo, a U.S. citizen, has returned to the United States.

The interior secretary of southern Morelos state, Jorge Messeguer, said Jimenez went to San Antonio, Texas, where he has family and will apparently go to a residential support facility there.

The U.S. embassy said in a statement that it was "closely co-ordinating with our Mexican counterparts and appropriate authorities in the United States" regarding the release.

In 2011, at age 14, Jimenez confessed to killing four people whose beheaded bodies were found suspended from a bridge.

He was born in San Diego, California, but was raised in Mexico by his grandmother.

Authorities quoted Jimenez as saying he had been forcibly recruited by drug traffickers when he was 11 and confessed to working for the South Pacific drug-cartel, led by reputed drug lord Hector Beltran Leyva.

Jimenez was trying to return to the United States when he was caught in 2010. When he was handed over to federal prosecutors, the boy calmly said that he participated in four killings while drugged and under threat.

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Las Vegas

Police dress as turkeys to squawk at bad drivers

Officers dressed in Thanksgiving bird finery walked across the road Tuesday as part of a sting operation in Las Vegas.

It's the fifth annual appearance of the safety mascot dubbed "Butterball One."

Police waiting to the sides of the crosswalks slapped drivers who didn't stop with fines starting at \$191.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Ontario

Man fined more than \$50K for animal cruelty

A Tecumseh, Ont., man has been fined in connection with what the Windsor-Essex County Humane Society calls the "largest farm-animal cruelty case in years."

John Holland pleaded guilty to four out of eight animal-cruelty charges relating to more than a dozen dead animals and some malnourished horses that were found at a farm last summer. THE CANADIAN PRESS



Afghans register for 2014 election

Abdullah Taf, 20, has his picture taken to register for the upcoming Afghan elections in a mosque, used as a mobile voter registration booth in Kabul, Afghanistan. As international troops leave and insurgency persists, Afghans worry they will see the same alleged voting fraud that tainted the last presidential elections, in 2009. ANJA NIEDRINGHAUS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Climate-change refugee claim denied

New Zealand. Judge rejects Kiribati man's claim that rising sea levels make it too dangerous for family to return to island home

In his decision Tuesday, a New Zealand High Court judge rejected Ioane Teitiota's claim that he should be granted refugee status because of climate change, saying Teitiota did not fit the definition of a refugee under international guidelines because he was not being directly persecuted.

Judge John Priestley said if he broadened the definition, millions more people worldwide suffering from natural disasters or warfare would be eligible to become refugees.

Teitiota and his wife moved to New Zealand from the low-lying Pacific island nation of Kiribati in 2007. He argued that rising sea levels make it too dangerous for him and his family to return there.

Since moving to New Zealand, Teitiota and his wife have had three children. All five are now likely to face deportation, because citizenship isn't automatically granted by birth in New Zealand

The judge said Teitiota and his children might have mounted a case to stay on humanitarian grounds had they not overstayed their visas.

"Unfortunately for the applicant, because he has chosen to remain illegally in New Zealand, he is, under

current law, precluded from applying for an immigration permit on humanitarian grounds," he said.

Kiribati, an impoverished string of 33 coral atolls located about halfway between Hawaii and Australia, has about 103,000 people and has been identified by scientists as being among the nations most vulnerable to climate change. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Frightening predictions

A panel of climate scientists recently issued a report predicting oceans could rise by as much as a metre by the end of the century.

 If that were to happen, much of Kiribati would simply disappear.

Into the abyss. Bosnian pond suddenly disappears

The villagers of the remote northwestern Bosnian village of Sanica have been in shock since a pond vanished two weeks ago.

The pond was some 20 metres in diameter and about eight meters deep. Now, the "abyss," as the villagers have dubbed the crater, is some 50 metres wide and 30 metres deep — and growing.

ing.
"I sat here only a day before it happened, sipping plum brandy," villager Cemal Hasan said. "And then, there was panic. Fish were jumping out, and a big plum tree

was pulled down like someone yanked it with a hook."

Scientists say it is not uncommon that ponds and small lakes suddenly disappear. They say it could be caused by drying underground water currents or changes in soil drainage due to irrigation.

An alternative spooky explanation: the owner of the pond took it with him when he died about a month ago. "His daughter saw him walk on the lake the night he died," said another villager, Rezak Motanic.

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metronews.ca
Wednesday, November 27, 2013

French bill cracks down on prostitution

Controversial.

Advocates say draft law would punish the customer while protecting the prostitute

France's government is pushing one of Europe's toughest laws against prostitution and sex trafficking, and other countries are watching closely.

Advocates hope that a draft French law going to parliament Wednesday will help change long-held attitudes toward the world's oldest profession — by punishing the

customer and protecting the prostitute.

The bill, however, is facing resistance and has prompted petitions defending those who buy sex. Signatories include screen icon Catherine Deneuve — who played a prostitute in the cult film Belle de Jour — and crooner Charles Aznavour.

Prostitution is currently legal in France, but brothels, pimping and soliciting in public are illegal.

The proposed law would introduce a 1,500-euro (\$2,000) fine — rising to 3,000-euro at the second offence — for the clients of prostitutes. They could also be forced to attend classes aimed at high-

lighting the harms of prostitution.

The bill aims to decriminalize the estimated 40,000 prostitutes in France, by scrapping a 2003 law that bans soliciting on the streets, and making it easier for foreign prostitutes to remain legally in France if they enter a process to get out of prostitution. One of the bill's authors, Maud Olivier, says it's about "getting rid the consequence of unequal and archaic relationships between men and women."

The proposed law follows the example of Sweden, which passed similar legislation in 1999.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Brrr-ning strong: Olympic torch takes icy dip

In this photo provided by Olympictorch2014.com, torch bearer Natalia Usacheva, ice cold water swimmer, exits the Tatyshev Channel of the Yenisei River with an Olympic torch during the Olympic torch relay in Krasnoyarsk, Russia, Tuesday. The 65,000-kilometre Sochi torch relay, which started on Oct. 7, is the longest in Olympic history. The torch has travelled to the North Pole on a Russian nuclear-powered icebreaker and has even been flown into space. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS/OLYMPICTORCHEDOIA.COM





Suspected drone spotted hovering over Quebec jail

'Flying object.'

No inmates were in courtyard at time. but iail can't verify whether any contraband fell



JOE **LOFARO**

Public-safety officials in Quebec don't know for sure whether it was a bird, a plane or a cape-wearing superhero, but something was in the sky hovering above the Hull jail Sunday morning, and they think it was a drone.

Philippe Desjardins, a spokesperson for the min-istère de la sécurité publique,

said a corrections officer saw a round, orange "flying object" about 15 centimetres in diameter in the sky above the prison courtyard at 11:20 a.m. The prison is located at 75 rue St-François, which is approximately five kilometres west of downtown Ottawa.

'The corrections officer found nothing on the ground in the prison," said Desjar-dins. "We have no evidence that the drone dropped something or crashed in the perimeter of the prison.

He said the jail confirmed that no inmates were in the courtyard at the time, but officials could not verify whether any contraband fell from the object.

The ministry oversees correctional facilities in the

"The corrections officer takes this very seriously because they are afraid that kind of flying object (could have) dropped some kind of drugs or cellphone or something like that," said Desjardins. "They're very aware of different methods to stop these kinds of events.

The jail has closed its investigation, according to the ministry spokesperson.

Worried

"They are afraid that kind of flying object (could have) dropped some kind of drugs."

Philippe Desjardins, spokesperson for the



Life must go on in battered Philippines

A mother cuddling her baby crosses muddy ground amid devastated buildings around an evacuation centre in the central Philippine province of Leyte on Tuesday. Leyte was right in the destruction path of Super Typhoon Haiyan, which pummelled central Philippines on Nov. 8. BULLIT MARQUEZ/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Tiny hobby drones pose privacy concern

drones — some as small as birds or insects - could evade Canadian privacy law as people begin using the increasingly affordable aircraft to spy on others, warns the federal privacy

Model aircraft flown by hobbyists may be "left entirely unregulated" as the federal government focuses on drones flown for commercial or police purposes, says a new study by the research group of the privacy commissioner's office.

In Canada, unmanned aerial vehicles - or UAVs are regulated by Transport Canada as aircraft under the Canadian Aviation Regulations. But drones that weigh 35 kilograms or less do not require a special flight certificate when flown for recreational purposes.

The study says the exception poses concerns given that companies are beginning to sell small, inexpensive drones than have the ability to stream live video to smartphones.

So far, there has been no indication that drones are being used in Canada for general surveillance or to gather personal information, the study adds.

But that could change as more of the devices take to

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Prisons too secretive, **Smith inquest told**

Watchdog needed?

Advocate for prisoners says accountability is necessary to avoid repeat of tragedy

Only an independent, external watchdog can force improvements on a secretive prison system deeply resistant to change, an inquest jury heard Tuesday.

Proper accountability is desperately needed to prevent a recurrence of the Ashley Smith tragedy, a lawyer for a women's prisoner advocacy group told jurors.

In closing submissions, Breese Davies said it would be useless to simply recommend a culture shift at Correctional Service Canada.

"This inquest has taught us the risks of allowing CSC to continue to operate under a cloud of secrecy," Davies said. Speaking for the Canadian

Association of Elizabeth Fry Societies, Davies said prison authorities need to focus less on security and more on therapy when it comes to mentally ill and chronically self-harming women.

Davies, who joined with Smith's family in urging jurors to return a verdict of homicide in the teen's choking death, said CSC has done little to deal with the issues that led to the tragedy.

CSC cannot be trusted to fix the problems," she said.

The deeply troubled Smith, 19, strangled herself in her segregation cell in Kitchener, Ont., on Oct. 19, 2007, as guards delayed going in to try

Davies opposed a finding of suicide or accidental death



From left: Julian Roy, lawyer for Ashley Smith's family, Breese Davies, lawyer for the Canadian Association of Elizabeth Fry Societies, and Richard Macklin, lawyer for Ontario's child advocate, walk outside during Smith's prison-death inquest in Toronto on June 25. colin perkel/the canadian press file

"They have lost their moral compass. The cloud of secrecy has to be lifted."

Breese Davies, lawyer for the Canadian Association of Elizabeth Fry Societies, on Correctional Service Canada

given evidence the warden had ordered underlings to stay out of Smith's cell as long as the inmate was still breathing.

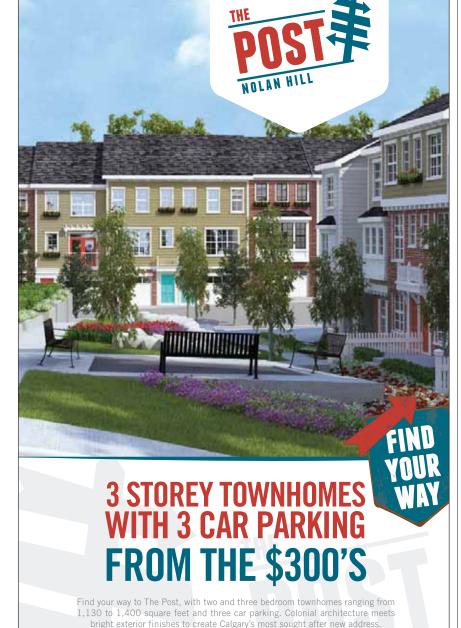
"The order was a well researched, meticulously-crafted policy that we now know was a major factor in Ashley's death," Davies said.

"It was extreme hesitation that caused her death that

An inquest homicide verdict is a neutral finding that does not involve liability or blame but indicates only that a person contributed to the death of an-

But John McNair, speaking for a psychiatric hospital in St. Thomas, Ont., where Smith spent some time, rejected a homicide verdict.

Smith brought a "terrible compulsion" to self-harm with her into the federal prison system and repeatedly played a game of "Russian roulette" she knew was potentially lethal, McNair said. The canadian press



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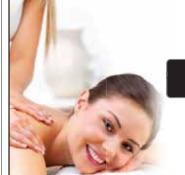
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metronews.ca Wednesday, November 27, 2013 **NEWS**

Report: Transport Canada rail oversight lacking in key areas

'Significant weaknesses.' Issues

include poorly trained inspectors, lack of route knowledge and absence of followup when problems are found

A rail-safety audit completed just days before the deadly July train crash in Lac-Mégantic, Que., found "significant weaknesses" in Transport Canada's oversight of railways.

Those weaknesses include a lack of knowledge of rail routes used to transport dangerous goods, too few safety auditors, poorly trained inspectors and an absence of followup or sanctions when safety problems are

'What we identified was

that there were weaknesses in all aspects of how Transport Canada is overseeing rail safety systems in the (rail) companies, auditor general Michael Ferguson told a news conference

His report found that only 14 safety audits of Canada's 31 federally regulated railways had been completed in the previous three years — just a quarter of the audits Transport Canada had expected to carry out.

Moreover, "the scope of the department's audits is very limited," stated the

And eight of those 14 audits focused on just the two largest operators, CN and Canadian Pacific, leaving Canada's smaller operators largely unchecked.

One of those small rail companies was the Montreal, Maine and Atlantic, whose unattended, single-operator train carry-



ing 7.6 million litres of volatile crude oil derailed and exploded in Lac-Mégantic on July 6, killing 47 people.

The auditor general's re-

port, which was wrapped up barely a week before the crash, explicitly states it makes no assessment of the Lac-Mégantic

However, Ferguson acknowledged Tuesday that the deadliest rail accident in Canadian history highlights the audit's significance. THE CANADIAN PRESS

- The September 2012 recall of seven million kilograms of beef products from XL Foods in Alberta highlighted serious problems at the Canadian Food Inspection Agency.
- The Canada Border Services Agency and the RCMP need to tighten border security work and take steps to better measure how effective they are at keeping illegals out.
- The Canada Revenue Agency did a good job of following up on leaked reports of Canadians with offshore accounts in Liechtenstein.





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A unified accounting profession







ALBERTANS: HAVE YOUR SAY ON THE FUTURE OF THE DESIGNATED ACCOUNTING PROFESSION

Alberta's Certified General Accountants (CGAs), Certified Management Accountants (CMAs) and Chartered Accountants (CAs) are planning to unify under the banner of a new, pre-eminent designation: the Chartered Professional Accountant (CPA). Unification of the designated accounting profession in Alberta is part of a shift of the profession in every province and territory across Canada to unify under the CPA designation.

Currently, Alberta's designated accounting professions are regulated by the provincial *Regulated Accounting Profession Act (RAPA)*, the purpose of which is to:

- · protect the public;
- protect the integrity of the accounting profession;
- promote and increase the competence of registrants; and
- · regulate the conduct of registrants.

Achieving unification of the designated accounting profession in Alberta will require new provincial legislation. The profession is proposing new legislation that aligns with the goals and principles of RAPA while also seeking to strengthen and clarify elements of the current legislation. Alberta's designated accountants have therefore approached the Government of Alberta to seek that required legislation.

All Albertans are invited to learn more about the unification project and the proposed legislation, and to provide their feedback.

Visit our website at www.albertaaccountants.org to find out about unification in Alberta and what the profession seeks in new legislation. And then, tell us what you think by filling out the questionnaire on the website. Feedback, thoughts and questions may be sent by email to: publicfeedback@albertaaccountants.org

Egyptian police fire water cannons to disperse a protest by secular anti-government activists in Cairo, Tuesday — the first implementation of a new law forbidding protests held without a permit. MOHAMMED ASAD/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Egypt faces growing unrest over new law

Stifling Islamists and non-Islamists alike.

Activists say law is harsher than curbs on protests during Hosni Mubarak's rule

Egypt's police fired water cannons Tuesday to disperse two protests by dozens of secular anti-government activists in Cairo, the security forces' first implementation of a controversial new law forbidding protests held without a permit from authorities.

The unrest points to the growing backlash against the law, which imposes heavy restrictions on protests, among

the non-Islamist political factions that rallied behind the military's ouster of Islamist President Mohammed Morsi.

Now some in the loose coalition are growing impatient with signs the militarybacked interim government is taking the country down a more authoritarian path.

Many non-Islamist activists say the law aims to silence any dissent ahead of a referendum on an amended constitution. Those activists oppose provisions in the revised constitution entrenching greater powers for the military and the president, and curtailing rights to free trials and assembly.

The government says the law is needed to restore security and rein in near-daily

Secular activists

"They don't want anyone in the streets any more. Not us, not the Islamists."

Rasha Azab, a secular activist, at a rally in Cairo to commemorate an activist, Gaber Salah, killed by police a year ago.

protests by Morsi supporters demanding his reinstatement. The Islamist rallies have often descended into bloody clashes with security forces, leaving hundreds dead since Morsi's ouster in July. The government's message has a strong resonance among a public weary of constant protests and unrest.

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Rogers shoots, scores with \$5.2B NHL multimedia deal

12-year term. Historic pact will diminish CBC's role in HNIC

Canada's hockey TV landscape underwent a seismic shift Tuesday as Rogers Communications wrested control of NHL multimedia rights with a blockbuster 12-year, \$5.2-billion agreement that will preserve Hockey Night in Canada but limit CBC's role in the iconic broadcast.

The deal, the largest in NHL history, gives Rogers national rights to all NHL games, including the playoffs and Stanley Cup final, on all its platforms in all languages.

"It will be the NHL like never before," Rogers Media president Keith Pelley promised at a packed news conference Tuesday, touting a

Knew when to fold 'em

The CBC "was not in a position to spend taxpayers money on this game of high stakes."

CBC president Hubert Lacroix on the NHL's high financial expectations, which he said the national broadcaster couldn't meet

"transformational day" for the industry, as well as Rogers' position as a sports broadcasting titan.

A sub-licensing agreement with CBC allows the public broadcaster to continue airing Hockey Night in Canada on Saturday nights for four years, while TVA in Quebec earned all of the Canadian French-language multimedia

But the Rogers coup includes rights to the venerable Hockey Night in Canada brand, allowing Rogers to air



the weekly staple across all its platforms, including City and Sportsnet.

"Sometimes

surreal — acquiring the most coveted content in all of Canada, and there is nothing even close, which is the national

rights to Hockey Night in Canada," Pelley told reporters after the news conference. THE CANADIAN PRESS

The new deal is raising questions about the future of CBC's talent, especially Don Cherry. Rogers president Keith Pelley said it was too soon to answer those questions.

- It appears TSN is also on the outside looking in. The NHL's news release early Tuesday made no mention of the all-sports network, which currently airs a package of regularseason and playoff aames.
- Bell Media vice-president of communications Scott Henderson said TSN would have 10 Leafs games next season under a regional agreement and that, starting in 2015, the network would have 26 regional Leafs games.
- The deal could put the iconic Hockey Night in Canada theme song in limbo. TSN has owned the rights to the jingle since 2008 after CBC was unable to negotiate a new agreement with the song's composer.

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Diplomats fail to reach global trade deal: WTO chief

Negotiators have failed to craft the first global trade deal in more than a decade, which could have given the world economy a \$1 trillion boost, the director-general of the World Trade Organization said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Study. Social media gurus going the way of the dodo

Jobs for tech savvy social media experts will be obsolete in 10 years, according to a new study released Tuesday by online employment site Workop-

The study predicts that social media experts will be a victim of advancing technology.

That is because today's youth are already immersed in social media platforms such as

97 per cent of recruiters use LinkedIn. 51 per cent use Facebook, and 49 per cent use Twitter. WORKOPOLIS

Facebook. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Market Minute





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GOLD \$1,241.40 US (+ 20¢)

Natural gas: \$3.86 US (+ 2¢) Dow Jones: 16,072.80 (+ 0.26)

Nuclear waste. Company town backs Bruce Power

Ordinarily, a proposal to bury radioactive waste in a scenic area would inspire "not in my backyard" (NIMBY) protests from local residents.

But conventional wisdom has been turned on its head in southwestern Ontario, where Bruce Power wants to entomb waste from its nuclear plants 680 metres below the surface near Lake Huron.

Some of the strongest support comes from Kincardine, Ont., area near the would-be



disposal site. Nuclear is a way of life here, and many residents have jobs connected to the industry. The associated press



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Douglas Coupland

Douglas Coupland's latest novel, Worst. Person. Ever., is available from Random House Canada.

Day 18

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Metra

Relationships

Temp work, temp love

With no job security or benefits and fluctuating schedules, temporary employment is affecting personal relationships.

A study by United Way Toronto and McMaster University found those doing precarious work - including contract, temporary and casual workers — are more likely to be single.

Among those aged 25 to 34, 31 per cent with secure employment are single, compared to 54 per cent with precarious jobs. PHOEBE HO/FOR METRO



Carried away

Tittle tattle

We asked you to share your office secrets and you answered:

"During a tough year of merger and acquisition, the president of the company made a speech at the Christmas party and said, We will shoot the laggards and carry the wounded!' As the president left the stage, a friend, obviously having partaken of a few too many, ran at the president, jumped on his back and yelled, 'Yahoo, carry me, I'm wounded.' And yes, he was carried — carried out by security!" METRO READER

Temp Empathizes with Ducklings

stayed for a while at Chantelle's, but declined her vodka as I still had to drive - to the oil refinery to meet with Kyle who answered a meet-for-coffee text with: Blue gate, refinery north road, 7:45 look for billboard with photo of happy mallard

duck family.

Indeed I found the Duck Family portrait with the banner caption, Always Putting the Environment First. It stood in front of a crude-oil cracking facility straight out of a sci-fi film where mutants on a slave planet convert poor people into

snacks for the master species.
"Isn't this place great?" asked Kyle, coming in from the parking lot and wearing his still brand-new journeyman's outfit. "I start on the eight o'clock night shift. I'm totally stoked.'

"Kyle, this place is freaky, and who knows what toxins there are in there."

"Shannon, for a guy with no degree, this is a good foot in the door, and if I play my cards right I can be a supervisor in a few years."

My heart felt like one of those little ducklings onto which a massive Acme cartoon anvil has fallen from a mile up. "Where's Mr. Burns' office?"

"Admin's about a mile thataway. Why are you so bummed out? I've got a real grown-upjob job. You should be happy for me."

I was silent.

"And look, I can maybe go

work in Libya or Abu Dhabi and make crazy money. That's where the action is. Six months in the Emirates - business class ticket each way - live in a walled compound with satellite TV and well-stocked fridges the sky's the limit."

I sighed.

"You're always looking for fun facts. Did you know that one barrel of oil -42 gallons - yields 44 gallons of petroleum products?"

"I didn't."

"It's because when crude oil is converted, it increases in volume. Roughly half of each barrel of crude oil is turned into gasoline for transportation."

When did Kyle drink the "New Kyle" Kool-Aid? I

"Shannon, for a door, and if I play never saw this coming.

He asked, "Shannon, why did you want to see me, anyway? Trying to get me involved in your evil plot with the Chinese?"

"As a matter of fact, yes." "I don't think I'm the espionage type."

"It's not espionage."

"Look, now's not the time for this. I'm going to be late on my first day if I don't get in right now." He started edging backwards toward the entryway. "Besides, this is where I'm at in my life right now. I'm

"Promise me you'll call if you change your mind?"

Dolly Parton once anonymously entered a "Dolly Parton look-alike contest" but lost to a drag queen. SOURCE: WTFFUNFACT.COM

"Gotta go, Shannon. Bye." I waved goodbye and got back into Danimal's BMW. I turned on the radio where Dust in the Wind by Kansas was playing and promptly began bawling.

TO BE CONTINUED ...

A majority of job seekers says it's important that a company offers flexible schedules when they are deciding whether to take a position.

The clock is ticking



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION DAVID VAN DYKE/METRO

TEMP is ... well, temporary

Douglas Coupland's 20-day novella is a pop-up project and will disappear from our website this Monday at 12:01 a.m. EST. If you've missed an instalment, there are still five days to catch up at temp.metronews.ca before it disappears. METRO

guv with no degree, this is a good foot in the my cards right I can be a supervisor in a few years."



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metr⊕ **VOICES**

SURVIVAL IS MEDIUM-RARE

time of year. You could get really confused and

for research each year, and guess what happens when you're finished serving medical sci-

You also might want to avoid being a lab rat. As many as 80 million rats and mice are used

If you're an animal, you must be confused.

Take this new survey from Insights West in Vancouver, which shows that 88 per cent of British Columbians oppose trophy hunting.

That's the good news. The bad news is that almost the same number — 85 per cent think it's OK to eat you.

Even more confusing, 73 per cent think it's OK to hunt animals for food.

If you could speak human, you'd probably point out that it doesn't really matter if you end up over someone's mantel or on the dinner table

Either way, you're just as dead.

Then of course you might be a dog or a cat, a beneficiary of the \$6.5 billion that Canadians

spend annually on their pets. Still, there's a risk you might end up in an animal shelter, where more than 51,000 cats, dogs and others" are euthanized annually in Canada.

Be thankful you're not a pet turkey, especially around this



Paul Sullivan

metronews.ca

Yup, you're dead. If you're looking for some evidence that attitudes are changing for the better, wag your tail. Not only do people oppose trophy hunting, only 15 per cent are in favour of killing animals for their fur. Good news if you're a beaver, though it might mean you're more likely to be

sheared alive.

The Insights West survey also says that only 38 per cent are in favour of using animals in rodeos, which means you're less likely to get rope burn, spur sores and any of the other hazards that make the West Wild.

And only 56 per cent think you should be caged in a zoo

where you're expected to spend the rest of your life wearing out a concrete trough from padding back and forth, mooching

So if you can get over the fact that 85 per cent want you for dinner, you might think things are looking up. Especially if you're not a member of the 21,286 species threatened with extinction, according to the 49th annual Red List, a census of the world's animals maintained by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature, updated just this week. And if you're a Hawaiian Crow or Wyoming Toad, you probably don't mind living at the zoo, because your species is among the 61 extinct in

Of course, if you're a member of one of the 799 completely extinct species, you're dead.

Probably the best kind of animal you can be is a big nasty critter at the top of the food chain in an inhospitable region of the world where people don't like to go — like a polar bear in

On second thought, if global warming keeps up, there won't be any Arctic. And you know what that means.



SIMCOE

Last week, AOL announced it was shutting down Winamp, one of the oldest, most venerable digital music players. Dating back to the days of Napster, Winamp was a favourite among music lovers who wanted something different than stock programs like iTunes and Windows Media Player. Sadly, the application will no longer be available for download as of Dec. 20. Fortunat-

elv. there are some free alternatives out there for those who don't need a Genius to tell them what to listen to.

Foobar2000 (foobar2000.org):

Offering a simple yet powerful interface, Foobar2000 isn't the drag on your computer's resources that iTunes is. It plays almost every audio file type imaginable and lets users tag their own music metadata.

VLC Media Player (videolan.org): Arguably the most popular

AIMP (aimp2.us):

If you just can't let Winamp go, try this clone. AIMP's interface is almost identical to Winamp's, right down to the 18-channel equalizer and mod-

source media player on the market,

VLC is a capable replacement. As a

honus, it's available on Windows.

Mac, iOS, Android and Linux, so it meets the definition of "cross-plat-

@metropicks asked: Rogers' #NHL deal will see them assume control over #HNIC. What do you want left the same? What do you want changed?

@Fontaine_D: It won't be long before we finally see the last of Don Cherry on HNIC. Thank you Rogers!

@cjoanporter: Question: Does all this #HNIC moving to Rogers news mean I'll no longer have to see/hear Don Cherry? Bc then I'm all for it.

@scottmahoney94: yay monopoly

@bonnaventure: replace Don Cherry with an upturned mop w/ bucket for head. Replace Ron Maclean with Stuart McLean. Add @ strombo 4 some reason less hockey, more 'who wore it best' segments.

Follow @metropicks and take part in our daily poll.

VE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU: Send us your comments: calgaryletters@metronews.ca

ZOOM

Sometimes the dentist is a zoo



Aurora the polar bear goes under

Talk about a risky procedure. On Tuesday morning veterinarians at the Assiniboine Park Zoo's animal hospital performed dental surgery on Aurora, the 11-month-old female cub who recently arrived at the zoo from

Churchill, Man. Thankfully Aurora was anesthetized for the work, which Dr. Chris Enright, who heads up veterinarian services at the zoo, said isn't too different than what people get done at the dentist.

The zoo said during the procedure, veterinary staff removed two of the polar bear's baby teeth and one adult tooth that were broken and infected.

SHANE GIBSON/METRO WINNIPEG

Rarrrhhh!

"Right now she's only about 110 pounds ... but she still has the attitude of a 600-pound predator. So it's certainly not safe to just ask her to open her mouth."

Dr. Chris Enright Head of veterinarian Assiniboine Park Zoo

Friends at the zoo

- Aurora was brought to the zoo about a month
- There are three other bears: Hudson (the oldest, and from the Toronto Zoo), Storm and another 11-month-old female who was named Kaska on Monday.

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The success beneath the beard

Television. Exploring the hairy truth behind the smash hit Duck Dynasty and their colourful cast of redneck characters

MIKE DOJC

scene@metronews

Reality TV has certainly gotten hairier in recent years. Remember the clean-shaven landscape of the first decade of the 2000s when cheeks were bare and exfoliated, and on top coifs were as mussed over as Ryan Seacrest's frosted time?

The rose-toting bachelors, catwalk strutting top models, and silicone enhanced housewives who defined that era are still with us, but the idle life of mansion hopping, wine guzzling and recreational crisis-provoking that their lik hawks has been eclipsed by a feral five o'clock shadow.

Reality that captures the current zeitgeist tends to aim its muzzle at a motley crew of outdoorsy folks who buck fashion trends and look more hobo than Hollywood.

Duck Commander founder Phil Robertson was a QB1 ahead of future hall-of-famer Terry Bradshaw at Louisiana Tech in the mid-1960s before giving up the gridiron for the duck blind.

Along with his kooky brother Si, boudin-cooking wife Miss Kay, business-savvy son Willie and the rest of the



loveable Robertson clan, the Duck Dynasty family are the undisputed lords of the backwoods boob tube explosion that has given us hooch making Moonshiners, wild boar hunting American Hoggers, and gator wrestling Swamp People.

The bodacious Bayou beards sported by the world's favourite duck calling sons have sold umpteen books, bobbleheads, school supplies, garden gnomes, and even Chia pets.

Their squirrel eating comedic gold melds the best parts of The Beverly Hillbillies and The Waltons with a dash of Dukes of Hazzard camp thrown in to create A&E's most successful show ever — a cable goliath aired in more than 100 countries.

The finale of Duck Dynasty's third season drew 9.6 million viewers and trounced Fox's American Idol and CBS's Survivor in the coveted

18-49 demo.

Those heavy hitters of yesteryear couldn't reach the bottom wisps of the wizened beard of the Redneck Gandalf, Phil Robertson.

Then season four's premiere blew their already boffo numbers out of the water with a record setting 11.8 million tuning in for a quacking good time.

A Reddit thread dedicated to pondering the secret of this band of bushy-faced

Reading the beards

The Duck Dynasty crew's beards are furry manifestations of the men lurking beneath them. Pogonologist Dr. Allan Peterkin reads the Robertson kin's face follicles to determine the beard statement the men are making.

- Si. "Substance over style."
- Patriarch Phil. "Longer is wiser."
- CEO Willie. "Seems gentle, poetic, approachable."

brothers' rampant popularity dwells on all sorts of cockamamie theories.

But in the end, they stand apart from their Lifestyles of the Redneck & Famous television brethren because of their cartoonish whiskers which tots will be wearing reasonable facsimiles of when they come knocking on your door for many Halloweens to come.

"They have a wild man, nature-loving, anti-authority quality that really stands out," weighs in Dr. Allan Peterkin, the author of One Thousand Beards-A Cultural History of Facial Hair, and grooming consultant for Dove's Men+Care face range.

"Their beards are an unforgettable part of their philosophy, brand, and trademark," says Peterkin.

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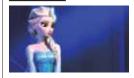


The Book Thief

Director. Brian Percival

Stars. Geoffrey Rush, Sophie

Based on an international bestseller, The Book Thief is an impassioned but understated piece of awardstriving cinema focused on a young illiterate child coming of age in wartime Germany. Despite the familiarity of the emotional themes that make up The Book Thief, rising Canadian star Sophie Nelisse (Monsieur Lazhar) particularly molds the melodrama into moving entertainment and Geoffrey Rush is thoroughly watchable as the warm foster dad who teaches her to read. steve gow



Directors. Chris Buck, Jennifer Lee

Stars. Kristen Bell, Josh Gad,

.

The Princesses of Arendelle, Anna (Kristen Bell) and Elsa (Idina Menzel), are polar opposites. Anna is a warm-hearted adventurer while Elsa has the awesome power to manifest ice and snow from her fingertips. When Elsa accidentally plunges her kingdom into an endless winter Anna sets off with mountain man Kristoff (Jonathan Groff), his reindeer and a sun-worshipping snowman named Olaf (Josh Gad) to save the realm. Frozen has all the elements of classic Disney - amusing animals, catchy songs and two princesses — but wants for more complex characters. RICHARD CROUSE



Homefront

Director. Gary Fleder

Stars. Jason Statham, James Franco

The first thing you need to know about Homefront is that it was scripted by Sylvester Stallone. That pretty much says everything about the thriller's severe tone, stock characterizations and messy combat choreography. Silly, but viscerally satisfying, Jason Statham plays an under-ground DEA agent hiding in backwoods Louisiana until his cover is blown and old enemies come calling. Homefront's cast has trouble finding the right tone - especially one-time Oscar-nominee Winona Ryder playing a completely expendable former biker chick. **steve gow**



Oldboy

Director. Spike Lee

Stars. Josh Brolin, Elizabeth

• • • • •

Spike Lee's remake of Oldboy will be best appreciated by those who haven't seen the original Korean award-winner. That's because the premise of a businessman seeking bloody vengeance on whomever inexplicably locked him up for 20 years hinges on not knowing the final twist (even if Lee does alter it slightly). An assault of gratuitous violence, this update is nothing short of energetic but its lack of cohesion and expressiveness will almost certainly repel fans of the original. STEVE GOW





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91 Crowfoot Terrace

Frozen (G) No Passes Wed-Thu 12:50-4 Frozen 3D (G) No Passes Wed-Thu 7:05-9:40

Homefront (14A) Wed-Thu 2:10-5:05-7:30-10:05

Empire Studio 16

Country Hills

388 Country Hills Blvd. The Book Thief (PG) No Passes, SR

Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Wed-Thu 3:10-6:25-9:40 Frozen (G) No Passes, SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Wed-Thu 3:40-10:20 Frozen 3D (G) No Passes, SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Wed-Thu 7 Oldboy (18A) No Passes, SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Wed-Thu 3:30-6:25-10

Empire Studio 10

MacLeod Trail

100-16061 MacLeod Trail

The Book Thief (PG) Digital Presentation, Stadium Seating Wed-Thu 12-3:10-6:30-9:30 Frozen (G) Digital Presentation, Stadium Seating Wed-Thu 4-9:40 Frozen 3D (G) Digital Presentation. Stadium Seating Wed-Thu 1-7

Homefront (14A) Digital Presentation, Stadium Seating Wed-Thu 12:45-4:15-

Scotiabank Chinook

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The Book Thief (PG) No Passes Wed-Thu 12:05-3:30-7:05-10:15 Frozen (G) No Passes Wed-Thu 12:10 Frozen 3D (G) No Passes Wed-Thu 3:20-7:15-10 Homefront (14A) Wed-Thu 1:05-3:55-7:20-9:50

Oldboy (18A) Wed-Thu 12:25-3:40-7:35-10:25

Sunridge Spectrum

2555 32nd Street

Frozen (G) No Passes Wed-Thu 12:05 Frozen 3D (G) No Passes Wed-Thu 2:55-7:10-9:55

Homefront (14A) Wed-Thu 12:35-3:25-6:40-9:25 Oldboy (18A) Wed-Thu 1:05-3:50-

6:55-9:35

Westhills 10

165 Stewart Green

The Book Thief (PG) No Passes Wed-Thu 5:50-9

Frozen (G) No Passes Wed-Thu 5:25 Frozen 3D (G) No Passes Wed-Thu 8:15

METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

The Word

Sorry Brad, there will be no private island foryou

Angelina Jolie surely plans to do something special for Brad Pitt's 50th birthday next month, but that something special apparently doesn't involve buying him an island.

The NY Daily News had reported that Jolie laid out \$20 million for an 11acre, heart-shaped private island on New York's Lake Mahopac, but the owners of the property, named Petra Island, tell E! News that it's still for sale.

"We are open to show Angelina Jolie and Brad Pitt



the island, but they have to have lunch at my café first,' says Donna Massaro, daughter of the island's owners.

The island would be of

show to receive

Fox not resenting her baby this time

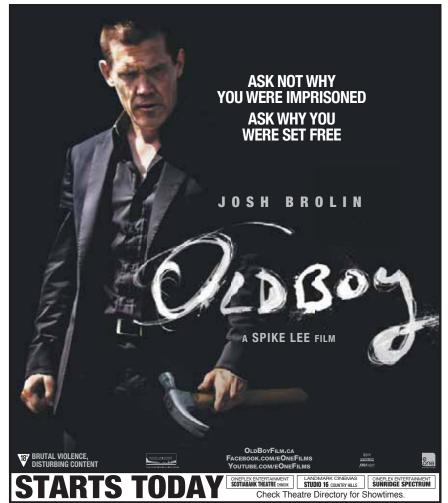
Megan Fox is totally digging

being pregnant the second time around. "For the most part, I

would say it's been a lot easier," she tells E! News recently.

"I think that could have a lot to do with the fact that I already have a baby, so I'm so distracted taking care of him that I don't really have time to sit and lament on the fact that I'm pregnant or indulge my pregnancy.'

Fox and husband Brian Austin Green welcomed her son, Noah, 14 months ago.





particular interest to Pitt

since the two houses on

Lloyd Wright, one of his

favourite architects.

it were designed by Frank

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Katniss Everdeen for a day

North Carolina. Follow in the footsteps of some of your favourite tributes by visiting the sites from the Hunger Games film

VAWN HIMMELSBACH

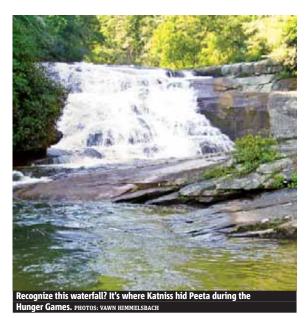
life@metronews.ca

Want to shoot an arrow like Katniss or learn the art of sling shot like Rue? Whether you're a fan of the Hunger Games or an avid outdoor enthusiast, adventure awaits in North Carolina's Blue Ridge Mountains.

Hike in the wilderness, learn survival skills, or just eat and drink like a celebrity — and may the odds be ever in your favour.

Hit the trails in Dupont State Recreational Forest (about an hour's drive from Asheville) where you'll discover some of the most iconic scenes from the first film. Pick up a trip planner at the Asheville Visitors Center or use the interactive online map (exploreasheville. com) to organize day trips out of Asheville.

A few points of interest in Dupont: hike to Triple Falls (from the main parking lot) to see where Katniss discovers a wounded Peeta. Or head to the scenic Bridal Veil Falls, where Katniss flees from the firestorm. (Note: The waterfalls were edited out of the film, since the tributes were always on the hunt for water.)



you're interested in behind-the-scenes scoop, it's well worth going on a Hunger Games Unofficial Fan Tour, where your guide will take you to locations used in the first film - locations that would be near impossible to find on your own. You'll also learn archery, sling shot and special-effects camouflage, and eat lunch featuring foods that your favourite tributes would have eaten. Day tours run from April to October and cost \$59 US; visit hungergamesunofficialfantours.com for more info.

You can also visit Henry River Mill Village, the location for District 12. Because of vandalism, this abandoned mill town

about an hour east of Asheville is closed to the public, but you can take a Hunger Games Unofficial Fan Tour for \$50 US. Or, head to Chimney Rock Park for short hikes and rock climbs (also the filming location of The Last of the Mohicans).

Where to stay:

Spend the night at Hotel Indigo, where Jennifer Lawrence, Josh Hutcherson and Liam Hemsworth stayed during the shoot. This boutique hotel has a contemporary vibe, with unique local touch es such as wall murals in each room of nature scenes taken by a local photographer.

Until March 31, Hotel Indigo



is offering a Hunger Games package, which includes two nights accommodation, a \$15-per-person gift card for lunch at Early Girl Eatery, chocolate chip cookies in your room (Jennifer and Josh's favourite), as well as local Hunger Games trivia. Prices begin at \$290 US; email snewton@hlihotels.com for more info.

What to do:

Head to Lexington Avenue Brewery for brisket mac 'n cheese or mountain trout tacos. Alternatively, go to the Laughing Seed Café, where vegan Woody Harrelson went for vegetarian fare. Then head to The Southern for a vanilla bourbon mint julep on the patio.

To get your heart racing, check out Nantahala Outdoor Center for whitewater rafting and zip line tours.

Real or not real?

Hunger Games Unofficial Fan Tours will be offering guided tours behind the making of Catching Fire in Atlanta, Ga. You'll visit film locations via private shuttle, learn archery, play archery tag and make your own volcanic rock. Tours start Dec. 14, running through 2014 (\$94 US). For die-hard fans take a full weekend, which includes themed accommodations and food, survival training, banquet and game simulation (beginning April 2014 for \$599 US).

You can also hone your outdoor survival skills by taking a wilderness medicine course (scheduled classes or private instruction). Visit noc.com

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metronews.ca Wednesday, November 27, 2013

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the streets of Springfield in the world's first Simpsons themed area at Universal Orlando Resort.

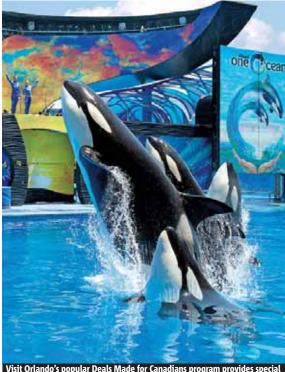
Meet Cinderella, Rapunzel and other Disney princesses in the Castle Courtyard located in the centre of New Fantasyland at Walt Disney World's new Princess Fairytale Hall.

Get transported into the icy world of penguins on a first-of-its-kind family adventure ride, Antarctica: Empire of the Penguin at Sea World Orlando. Follow animal warriors on magical journeys at Legoland Florida's new area, the World of Chima, based on the Cartoon Network animated TV series.

Get up a close-up look at the Space Shuttle Atlantis and learn the history of NASA's 30-year Space Shuttle program at Kennedy Space Center Visitor Complex.

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METRO NEWS SERVICES



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HOLIDAY TRAVEL 29

Get away on the Getaway in 2014

DIANE TIERNEY

Start the new year off right by sailing on the first cruise ship to be launched in 2014 — the spanking new 4,000-passenger Getaway. The Norwegian Cruise Line (NCL) ship arrives in January and emulates the tropical glitz and glamour of her home port of Miami.

"The Getaway's unique venues celebrate the heritage and culture of Miami and south Florida," says NCL CEO Kevin Sheehan. "We want guests to experience a taste of Miami with food and drinks that reflect the city."

The Tropicana Room is inspired by the Miami Beach nightlife of the 1940s and '50s. Enjoy Latin food and lair at the Flamingo Bar & Grill. Reflect on Ernest Hemingway's Key West history at the Sunset Bar. However, don't miss the coolest place to chill — the Svedka/Inniskillin Ice Bar, featuring Art Deco-style decor that's reminiscent of Miami Beach's famous Ocean Drive.

Sizzling entertainment includes Latin-inspired dance productions by Broadway sensation Burn the Floor. Performances of the seventime Tony Award nominated musical Legally Blonde are scheduled. Hilarious comedy headliners arrive from Levity Entertainment. Or sing to catchy tunes with the Howl at the Moon duelling piano players.

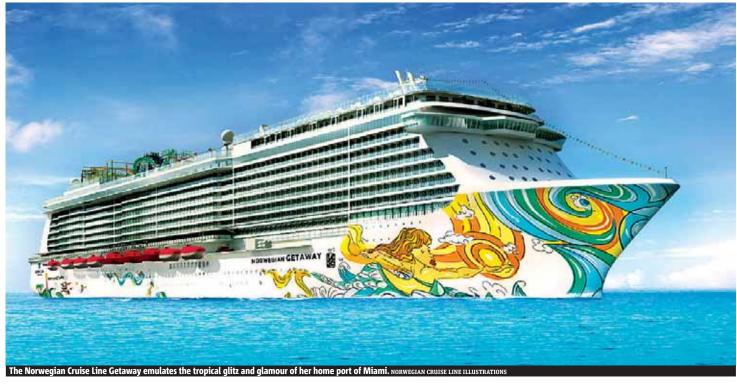
A first of its kind at sea is the Illusionarium, a mesmerizing dining and entertainment experience that will fascinate guests with performances of world-class magicians and supernatural special effects.

Another first is the Grammy Experience, which includes artifacts chosen by the Grammy Museum, along with live performances by past winners and nominees.

Foodies can feast at 27 dining venues, including celebrity chef and Food Network star Geoffrey Zakarian's three dining spots. Buddy Valastro, star of the TLC series Cake Boss, also has his famous Carlo's Bakery on board.

For families, Nickelodeon offers the opportunity to meet SpongeBob SquarePants, Patrick Star, Dora the Explorer and Diego. There will also be a pirate-themed Nickelodeon Kids' Aqua Park where children can cool off with larger-than-life characters from Bikini Bottom.

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complex features an aqua park with five waterslides, two swimming pools and one of the largest multi-level elevated ropes course. It challenges guests to more than 40 different elements, including a zip-line track. But for a real thrill and ultimate test of your courage, step out on to the "Plank," a platform that extends eight feet over the side of the ship.

A nine-hole miniature golf course, rock-climbing wall, bungee trampoline and spider web (with a 24-foot enclosed climbing cage and spiral slide) round out the activities.

The Getaway sails to the eastern Caribbean. For more information, call 866-NCL-CRUISE (866-234-7350) or visit nel company.

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metronews.ca Wednesday, November 27, 2013

It's alright 'cause I'm saved by the benefits of having a diverse degree

Change of the chalkboard. How to stretch your teaching degree far beyond the desks and dictation

MOORE TalentEng.ca

Even if you find a career path you love, it's always a good idea to be aware of industries and roles that match your skills and experience. This is particularly true of teaching, which some individuals explore and discover isn't for them — while others have trouble landing a teaching job in the first place.

How do you find a career outside the classroom when all of your education and work experience have taken place inside those four cozy walls? Also, how do you repurpose an education degree on paper to convince an employer that you're qualified to pursue a different calling?

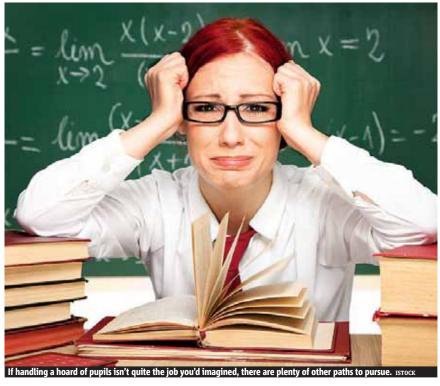
Most of all, can you find a job that will rival the joy and passion you have for educating and inspiring young minds?

Yes. Here's how.

Discover your core values

Leaving a field for which you've spent years training is unnerving. It can lead to questioning long-cherished goals in both your personal and professional life.

This may sound a little horrible, and ridden with a whole new set of crises, but it's actually the best way for-



ward.

Michelle Dunn, a career coach and former teacher, says that any major career shift needs to be preceded by a genuine reflection about one's core strengths and values. "The next thing that happens to pop up may not be the best thing," she cautions."

"When career coaching, we start with who the person is, what's important to them and their strengths. Getting really clear about those things will help you leverage

your skills to turn to something else."

Identify your transferrable

Identifying those skills can be difficult coming from a field defined so much by what seems like just one duty: teach stuff. But teachers employ a mass of skills getting a class of 14-year-olds ready to sit down and write an essay on Romeo and Juliet, urbanization or the electoral process.

Teachers research, transfer knowledge, manage diverse groups of individuals, learn new software, evaluate performance, participate in professional development activities, facilitate, work independently and exercise authority.

They also engage in pub-

"If you can maintain discipline and leadership in a classroom of 30 kids, you can definitely do that in an organization."

You've got the goods

Michelle Dunn Career coach and former teacher

lic speaking, presenting complex topics to rowdy audiences!

When writing a cover letter or resumé, the trick, as always, is to disassociate the tasks from the setting. The setting will change, but the tasks essentially remain the same. As Michelle points out: "If you can maintain

A successful switch

Fifteen years ago, Cam McRae left an established teaching career in Vancouver to start an e-magazine for mountain biking in the North Shore area.

- It was a bold move for someone who didn't know much about creating websites or managing a business. But he had just returned from a year of teaching (and riding) in Italy, which gave him a new perspective on what he wanted to do for the rest of his life.
- His website, NSMB.com, now boasts a sizeable following and several

heavyweight sponsors in the outdoor industry. He still holds on to his teaching credentials, just in case, but he doesn't regret his career move

 His advice for current teachers considering a similar 180?: "It depends on your employment and family responsibilities. But generally my advice is to go for it; we regret more what we don't do than what we do. Also, the flexibility of teaching – summers, holidays — can allow you to start developing your new interest on the side at first. So take advantage of that."

discipline and leadership in a classroom of 30 kids, you can definitely do that in an organization."

Consider the "helping professions"

Of course, the easiest transition occurs when your skills transfer so naturally it doesn't seem like a daunting change at all.

For teachers, a natural transition is into what Michelle calls "helping professions": training, coaching or advising roles, either within the education sector, but outside the classroom, or in a department with a strong people-focused mandate, like human resources.

Michelle has led plenty of workshops for teachers moving into these fields. She says it's a natural transition since "they want to help people and see them reach their potential," and that's what they're already adept at.

In her own case, Michelle moved into career coaching after teaching abroad for four years and raising two children. It offered a way to build naturally on her interests in counseling and psychology — part of her B.A. work — and "still do what I loved and knew how to do."

Embrace entrepreneurism

Finally, there's a strong case to be made for the unknown — following that other passion and seeing where it leads. This may involve obtaining new credentials along the way, but it can also be done by drawing on the extraordinary work ethic and nerve honed in the classroom.

Contrary to the popular belief that says teachers can't cut it in the cruel world of business, Michelle argues that teachers are native entrepreneurs. They have intuition, drive, excellent people skills and loads of self-direction. These are the skills needed to start something new and develop it into a sustainable livelihood.

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Getting a hold of your guru of professional greatness

Finding "the one".

Taking the first steps toward finding your perfect mentor

ROSIE HALES

Sometimes a boost can be just what you need to jump start your career and finding a mentor might be the way to do just that.

The mentor-mentee relationship is a precious one. The mentor can coach their menter in their chosen field and open up a whole variety of opportunities to them, while the mentee keeps their teacher abreast of current feelings and developments of the age group in that industry.

After you've decided what you might look for in a mentor (think: someone you like

who works in your field of interest and, as an added bonus, has a strong network within the industry), try to brainstorm where you could meet said person. Here are some to start you off:

Where to meet a mentor

Networking events

Signing up for networking events can be a really great way to meet potential mentors and it's a useful strategy to get your foot in the door of your industry of interest.

School

Universities or colleges often employ industry professionals to teach classes and making use of these connections to the outside world can provide you with a mentor that understands the culture of the classroom and of the workplace.

Social media

Do you have a blog or Twitter account that you love to follow? If someone is posting things that are both interesting and relevant to your chosen field, they probably have other information that they'd love to share with you!

What to do once you've met a potential mentor

Ask for advice, not mentorship

Hatch your relationship by asking your potential mentor for advice about something, instead of making the overly formal request of "Will you be my mentor?" With any luck, your relationship will blossom from there.

Stay in touch

Once you've met your mentor, hopefully you will have had the chance to get their contact details.

Send them an email saying how great it was to meet them and recall an interesting part of your conversation to signal to them that you were listening and you were engaged with what they were saying.

Ask them questions, but don't bombard them

A good mentor does want to help you, but don't take advantage of their good nature.

Chances are, they are very busy and don't have a whole lot of time to reply to inquiries. Don't ask them huge numbers of questions all at once and try to keep these questions as succinct as possible.

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Asking someone to be your mentor may overwhelm them, as they won't know what that entails. Start with simply asking someone you respect for advice years.



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Not just Plastics on today's playground

Boys on the side?

Author whose book inspired Mean Girls movie encourages educators not to put social issues of young males on back burner

The teen comedy Mean Girls was inspired by Rosalind Wiseman's Queen Bees and Wannabes, which offered insight into the dynamics of relationships, cliques and conflicts involving teen

Her latest book Masterminds and Wingmen (Harmony Books) offers a malefocused complement to her groundbreaking bestseller, as Wiseman urges adults to recognize that the emotional needs of boys are also deserving of attention.

"I want people to know that boys want deep relationships, that it makes their lives better; that their friendships are important to them and that they have conflicts like everybody

does. And that we have to stop dismissing boys' emotional lives," Wiseman said during a recent interview.

"We don't have to have these Hallmark, 'Sit around in the circle and tell me your deepest feelings (moments).'

"It's just being able to realize there's a lot going on there, so you can see



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it; and then realize if you reach out, they're going to come to you if you listen. We just have to do a lot of work first on ourselves.'

Mother to sons Elijah, 12, and Roane, 10, Wiseman didn't just focus on her own parenting practices and experiences — she went directly to the source.

Wiseman sought out boys willing to open up about a vast range of subjects, from stigma surrounding being gay to girl troubles, gaming, social networking and the roles and hierarchies within social groups.

More than 160 boys offered contributions, which Wiseman said helped shape many of the topics in the book, while also aiding in painting a picture of common challenges and dynamics governing what she termed "Boy World."

"Boys have to hide behind this attitude of, 'I don't care,'" said Wiseman.

"One of the things that happened that was really extraordinary was the boys were able to say, and be proud of it ... 'I want to make the world a better

Boys won't always be boys

"I want people to know that boys want deep relationships, that it makes their lives better: that their friendships are important to them and that they have conflicts like everybody does."

Rosalind Wiseman Author of Masterminds and Wingmen

place. I want boys to have a better sense of how to get through things than I do, or I did. And so, I'm helping with this project so that that happens.

"But I had to prove to them that I would listen to them and that they could disagree with me and I wouldn't shut them down."

Wiseman said she's heard so far from adults who say the book has enlightened them as to why boys clam up when bom-barded with questions about how their day went.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

metronews.ca Wednesday, November 27, 2013 **FOOD**

Take the chill out of November cold with Black Bean & Avocado Soup



ROSE REISMAN

This creamy, rich-tasting soup is very nutritious. I like to serve it garnished with reduced-fat sour cream, diced plum tomatoes or a sprinkle of shredded cheddar cheese.

1. Spray a nonstick saucepan with cooking oil, add vegetable oil and place over medium heat. Cook the onion, carrot and garlic, stirring occasionally, 5 minutes or until softened.

2. Set aside 1/2 cup of the black beans. Add the remaining beans, stock, sugar and cumin to the vegetable mixture. Bring to a boil, then reduce the heat to medium low. Cover and cook for 15 minutes or until the carrots are tender.

3. Purée soup in blender or food processor, working in batches. Return to saucepan. Stir in reserved beans.

4. Ladle the soup into individual bowls and garnish with cilantro and avocado and sour cream. The best of rose reisman (WHITECAP BOOKS) BY: ROSE REISMAN



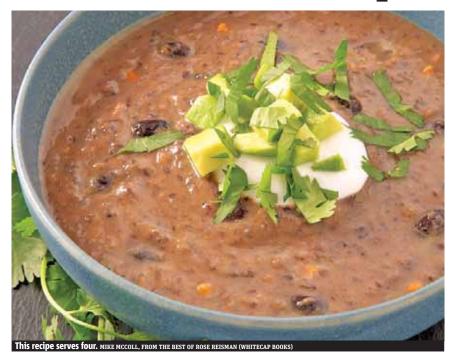
2 tsp vegetable oil

drained and rinsed

- 1 cup chopped onion
- 1 cup chopped carrot • 2 tsp minced fresh garlic
- one 19 oz can black beans.
- 2 1/2 cups low-sodium

chicken or vegetable stock

- 1/2 tsp granulated sugar
- 3/4 tsp cumin
- 1/4 cup chopped cilantro or parsley
- 1/4 cup diced avocado and reduced-fat sour cream



Drink of the Week

Juicy Dreams

Bourbon has all the qualities for a cold weather base: warming, festive, affordable and compatible. And because of those qualities, you don't need to do much to it to create a terrific cocktail.

- 2 oz bourbon
- 1 oz Lillet
- 1/2 oz lemon juice
- 2 oz pomegranate juice

In an ice-filled cocktail shaker, combine the bourbon, Lillet, lemon juice and pomegranate juice. Shake, then strain into an ice-filled tumbler. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS





Lunch. Grilled Cheese and Asparagus Rolls

1. Preheat contact grill. (If your contact grill has more than one tempe setting, set

2. Slice rolls in half and place, cut side down, on grill. With lid open, grill for 1 minute.

- **3.** Evenly divide cheese, asparagus and red pepper among rolls to make 4 sandwiches. Sprinkle with pepper.
- **4.** Spread 2 ml (1/2 tsp) of butter on the outside of each roll. Be sure to butter both sides.

- 4 kaiser rolls
- 250 ml (1 cup) grated sharp cold-pack cheddar cheese
- 8 spears asparagus, trimmed
- 1/4 red bell pepper, thinly
- sliced
- Freshly ground black pepper (optional)
- 10 ml (2 tsp) butter, room temperature, divided

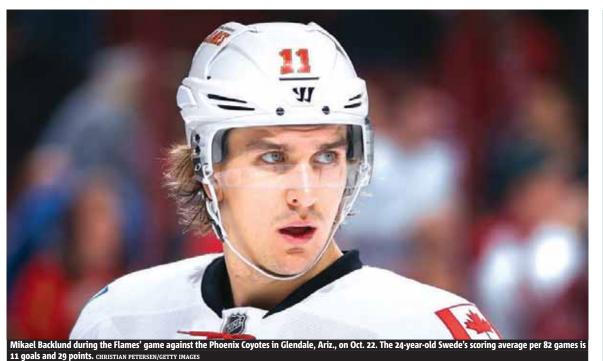
Place sandwiches on grill and close tightly. Grill for 2 to 3 minutes or until golden brown and crisp.

THE CANADIAN PRESS/ 125 BEST IN-DOOR GRILL RECIPES BY ILANA SIMON (ROBERT ROSE INC., ROBERTROSE.CA,



34 SPORTS metronews.ca Wednesday, November 27, 2013

SPORTS



Time for Flames to shop Backlund is now



THE HOCKEY NEWS Brian Costello calgary@metronews.c.

If Mikael Backlund wasn't a first-round draft pick six years ago, the hockey world would view him as what he is right now — a third-line checking centre not entirely irreplaceable

But because Backlund was selected 24th overall and the designation of "first-round pick" sticks with you long after the potential has evaporated, there's a perception Backlund has some untapped offensive acumen ready to burst from his stick.

That's why there's a fac-

tion of Flames followers who think it foolish to give up on the 24-year-old Swede. But it's also the reason Flames management thinks it wise to shop him now, before his value on the trade market falls even more. Coach Bob Hartley has determined Backlund doesn't have the offensive skills to play among his top six forwards, even if advanced stats show he drives possession. Let's face it, his scoring average per 82 games is 11 goals and 29 points.

If Backlund is traded in the coming weeks, it will be for two main reasons. The first is predetermined — management wants to make room for other centres, either already in the system or about to be

acquired. The second reason is because Backlund, along with another player or two, is a diminishing asset whose value will never be more than it is now, according to management.

So what can the Flames get in return? It all depends upon who Backlund is packaged with. The Flames would probably love to include a defenceman in a deal. Chris Butler's value has never been higher. He's playing top-four minutes and at 27 is still relatively young. But he lacks creative puck skills and isn't nearly ornery enough to make a difference long-term. He's effectively a 5-6 D-man masquerading as a top-4.

And prospect Chris Breen

is a towering blueliner whom the Flames must realize doesn't fit into their plans. He's not mean enough to play bad cop and his lack of mobility both north-to-south and east-to-west nullifies his physical advantage of being six-foot-six. But at 24 and projected to be a late bloomer, there's value out there.

One thing is near certain: Either Breen or Butler or Shane O'Brien will be gone, perhaps in a package with Backlund, by the time Mark Giordano returns from injury within two weeks.

The only question is what team out there is willing to make a good offer for the socalled unrealized potential of Backlund.

NHL

Stars explode in third period to down Ducks

Cody Eakin, Stephane Robidas and Ryan Garbutt scored in a 53-second span of the third period, and the Dallas Stars beat the Pacific Division-leading Anaheim Ducks 6-3 on Tuesday night for their first home win in more than month.

The Stars trailed 2-1 before the three-goal flurry against Jonas Hiller. Antoine Roussel scored twice for Dallas, and Alex Chiasson added an empty-net goal in the final minute.

Dan Ellis stopped 28 shots, winning for only the second time in seven games. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NBA

\$48M from Lakers 'easy to accept,' Bryant says

Wearing his practice shorts and a sweatshirt, Kobe Bryant looked as if he was ready to return action.

After the Los Angeles Lakers signed the fourthleading scorer in NBA history to a two-year, \$48-million contract extension, Bryant said he can't wait to play. "The Lakers came up

"The Lakers came up with the structure — a system and a plan they thought was a win-win for everybody involved. From my perspective, it was very easy to accept it," Bryant said. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



MLB

New criticism of Selig added to A-Rod's lawsuit

Alex Rodriguez's lawyers updated his lawsuit against Major League Baseball and Bud Selig, adding new criticism of the commissioner for not testifying in the union's grievance to overturn the 211-game suspension given to the Yankees star. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Hall of Fame. Maddux headlines new hopefuls

Four-time Cy Young Award winner Greg Maddux, two-time winner Tom Glavine and two-time AL MVP Frank Thomas are among 19 new-comers on this year's Hall of Fame ballot, joining steroid-tainted holdovers Barry Bonds, Roger Clemens, Mark McGwire and Sammy Sosa.

Ballots are due by Dec. 31, and results will be announced Jan. 8. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Showing his stripes. QB wants to stay with Ticats

If Henry Burris has his way, he will be the starting quarter-back to lead the Hamilton Tiger-Cats back to the Grey Cup next year.

Burris, 38, becomes a free agent in the off-season after two seasons with the Ticats. He says he wants to stay in Steeltown and play at the new Tim Hortons Field stadium that is planned to open next season.

"I want to be back here," he said. "We've had a great run. I still feel like I can get it done."

He showed he could still get it done this season, leading the league with 4,925 passing yards. He completed 373 of 567 pass attempts for 24 touchdowns and 19 interceptions

Hamilton lost to Saskatchewan 45-23 in Sunday's Grey Cup. The Canadian press

Riders could defend title minus key players

Free agents. Grey Cup MVP Sheets and Dressler will test waters south of the border

Just days after winning the Grey Cup, the Saskatchewan Roughriders have cleaned out their lockers knowing some players from their successful

core may not be back.

Star running back Kory Sheets and slotback Weston Dressler — one of quarter-back Darian Durant's favourite targets — will both become free agents in the off-

Other players could be lost when Ottawa starts stockpiling its roster with picks from the CFL expansion draft. The existing eight teams will

"I wouldn't play for no other CFL team in the league, so don't anybody got to worry about that." Kory Sheets

be forced to protect a certain number of players, with the RedBlacks then allowed

to pick from those left unprotected.

Both Dressler and Sheets are expected to explore opportunities south of the border in the NFL.

"If the right opportunity presented itself, I would definitely take a look at it and have to consider all my options at that point, if I had a real chance," said Dressler.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



NFL

'Everybody is playing for their jobs': Shanahan

Washington Redskins coach Mike Shanahan says jobs are on the line — and his own is on the list.

"I think the players are smart enough to understand that if you are 3-8, everybody is playing for their jobs, Shanahan said Tuesday.

'That's the nature of our business. I don't care if it's players, coaches, support staff. The nature of this game is to find a way to win and if you don't win, everybody is accountable."

With no hope for a winning season, the Redskins' focus is starting to shift to 2014, with the coach implying how the team could be better. But instead of the usual "Wait'll next year," Shanahan's theme is more like "Wait'll next off-season."

Start with Robert Griffin III, who could use a full, healthy off-season to learn how to develop into an NFL-caliber passer. He didn't get such tutoring this year because he was recovering from major knee surgery, and his play has regressed because defences have learned how to thwart the zone-read that made him so effective as a rookie in 2012.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Nets hobble past Raptors' two-man show in Toronto

Nets guard Tyshawn Taylor drives to the hoop past Raptors forward Tyler Hansbrough in Toronto on Tuesday night. DeMar DeRozan poured in 27 points while Kyle Lowry had 24, but the two had little help from their Raptors teammates in a 102-100 loss to the limping Nets. The Nets were missing Deron Williams, Andrei Kirilenko and leading scorer Brook Lopez. Frank Gunn/The Canadian Press



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metronews.ca Wednesday, November 27, 2013

DRIVE
37

2014 BMW 4-Series



Review. Sometimes you need to break away to really come into your own

MALCOLM GUNN

wheelbasemedia.com

It's a breakup of a different sort. BMW's newest two-door model has separated from its former 3 Series sedan counterpart, changed its name, undergone a major facelift and emerged as one of the more

attractive models in the auto-

maker's lineup.

The 4 Series represents part of BMW's master strategy of re-branding the coupe and convertible lineup using evennumber nomenclature exclusively (2, 4 and 6), while the sedan range sticks with odd numbers (3, 5 and 7).

For the 2015 model year the current 1 Series vehicles will be rebooted as 2 Series coupes and convertibles. The newly christened 4 Series appears to have strayed only slightly from the previous 3 Series, but is a bit wider and longer.

The changes that have occurred in the 4-Series lower the car's centre of gravity and, along with a number of structural and suspension adjustments specific to it, are aimed at providing a more sporting experience along with creating a sharper personal-luxury image.

Don't look for any dramatic changes when it comes to the 4 Series powertrains that are already in use in a number of BMWs. The 428i uses a turbocharged 2.0-litre four-cylinder engine that cranks out 241 horsepower and 260 poundfeet of torque.

Moving up to the 435i puts you in control of a 3.0-litre six-cylinder engine that generates 300 horsepower and 300 pound-feet of torque. By BMW's stopwatch, the 428i will propel the coupe to 60 mph in 6.0 seconds, while the stronger 435i gets it done in 5.3 seconds. To help conserve fuel, there's a standard stop/start function that shuts off the engine when the car is stopped, which of course saves fuel.

An eight-speed automatic is the base choice with either engine, but you can swap it out for a six-speed manual gearbox, should you be so inclined. You can also equip each edition with BMW's x-Drive all-wheel-drive option that's probably a wise move in this country where winter is a fact of life

From the driver and front passenger's perspective there's little to differentiate the 4 Series Coupe from its former sedan mate. The controls and switches are legible to a fault and convey a keen sense of quality.

Both front and rear-seat riders (there's room for just two in the split-folding back seat) sit on standard Sensatec (faux leather) upholstery and have ample views out the generously sized front and side windows. That's in sharp contrast to cars such as the Audi TT coupe.

Selecting a base 428i will set you back \$47,000 (\$57,000 for the 435i) and includes premium items such as climate

2014 BMW 4-Serie

- Type. Two-door, rear-/all-wheeldrive four-passenger coupe
- Engines (hp). 2.0-litre DOHC I4, turbocharged (241); 3.0-litre DOHC I6, turbocharged (300)
- Transmissions. Eight-speed automatic; six-speed manual (opt.)
- Base price (incl. destination). \$47,000

Design

Compared to the 3 Series sedan, the roofline is lower by about five centimetres and the ride height has been reduced by about 1.5 centimetres. The fenders also bulge more than the sedan's, and the space between the front and rear axles has increased a bit

Optional add-ons

Following those choices there are a number of available packages that feature items such as a navigation, sport suspension, heated front seats and steering wheel, automatic high beams, rearview camera and a head-up display that projects speed, fuel and direction info onto the windshield.

The interior is colour co-ordinated, futuristic and aesthetically pleasing.

control with memory settings, power moonroof, eight-way power front seats, rain-sensing wipers and run-flat tires, which gets rid of a traditional spare.

However, that's just the warm-up. Each model can be upgraded with Luxury Line, Sport Line and M Sport trims, with the latter including an aerodynamic body kit, sporty 18-inch wheels (17-inchers are standard) and well-bolstered sport seats covered in pre-

nium leather

Historically, BMW purchasers have had no problem adding these and other extra-cost toppings (even selecting metallic paint is optional) and that will likely hold true with the sleek and sassy 4 Series coupe and soon-to-follow hardtop convertible. After all, combining significant luxury, performance and style is what really makes sets these cars and their owners apart.

Compare



Audi A5
Base price: \$46,100



2Cadillac CTS coupe Base price: \$44,850



Mercedes-Benz C-class Base price: \$46,800



metronews.ca
Wednesday, November 27, 2013

Tech-ing time to settle, latest in-car gadgetry not as smart as you think

Problems. Complaints coming from all major demograhics unhappy with infotainment and connectivity within their vehicles



Vehicles are turning into smart phones and that's having a profound effect on vehicle interiors, and in many cases, the driver's dissatisfaction with such interiors.

And the complaints are not just coming from grumpy old men who would rather trowel grout than tweet.

According to consumer research conducted by J.D. Power and Associates, all major

demographic bulges (boomers, Gen X, Gen Y), are having issues with the quality and design of some of the connectivity and infotainment systems in today's vehicles. In fact, the younger generations are harder to please because they self identify as tech-savvy, multi-tasking experts and expect instant action and satisfaction with all of their techie devices.

It's a case of, "we like all the technology, but it's not working as brilliantly and easily as advertised." And we really want these things to work, because we're spending more and more time in our vehicles.

Mike VanNieuwkuyk, Executive Director, Global Quality Practice, J.D. Power, recently held fourth on this "in-car experience" topic at the 2013 TalkAUTO conference in Toronto, and noted that, these days, more malfunctions are happening in the navigation and infotainment areas than anywhere else on the vehicle.



In addition to outright malfunctions, his firm also identified a large source of irritants that is more related to bad design than it is to things breaking down. One irritant group was characterized as "soft inadequacies, where needs are addressed but not as preferred" (I only wish I made that up). Another irritant group is tech stuff that is just misaligned with expectations.

A lot of voice command issues fall into these two groups. VanNieuwkuyk said customers complain about the technology profusely, but rank it only second to "touch screen" as the preferred way to control their navigation systems: "Even though many think voice command is terrible, they still want it," said VanNieuwkuyk. "They're waiting for someone to do it right."

VanNieuwkuyk's After report, several automobile dealers assembled on stage to discuss current and various automotive industry trends from their perspective, and it was soon apparent that dealerships are finding themselves on the sharp end of the stick, when it comes to customers' frustrations and learning curves with in-car technologies. Even though they didn't say it outright, you got the sense they felt the automakers weren't doing their share, in

how all these complex systems work.

But the dealers had some really good ideas about how to deliver some of the training and information customers need. Because there is just not enough time to demonstrate how everything works when customers take their cars home for the first time, they had to get creative. One dealer conducts a "second delivery" right at the customer's home. Another encourages salespeople to stay in touch with customers 24/7 via smart phones. Another thought that owner manuals should be converted to a series of short videos, which could be uploaded to youtube or available as smart phone apps. Another dealer was contemplating something like the Apple Genius Bar.

I hope these ideas work, and I hope grumpy old men will always feel free to express themselves.



Funny how used market can set new car prices

Key factor. Automakers releasing a new model will refer to amount of secondhand vehicles available before putting price tag on it

MCINTOSH
Drive@metronews.ca.

There are numerous factors that go into the price of a new car, including how much it costs to build it, how many options it has, and if it's imported, the rate of currency exchange.

But there's also an important consideration that you may not realize: the number of used cars that will be on the market when that new model goes on sale.

"New-vehicle prices have come down in recent years, and are actually below where they were in 2007," says Carlos Gomes, senior economist and auto industry specialist for Scotiabank. "You'll start to see a change next year, and used cars

The raw numbers

- 2013. Canadians will buy approximately 1.73 million new vehicles in 2013.
- Imports. Canada normally imports between 150,000 and 200,000 used vehicles from the U.S. each year, but that number has dropped due to very low new-vehicle sales following the 2008 economic crash.

re the key."

Used cars affect the price of new cars—and their price, in turn, is generally determined by how many there are available. The prime age is around four years old, when they're still new enough to appeal to most buyers in the secondary market, and when many of them are coming off leases. When there are fewer of these used vehicles available and demand for them is high, sellers can ask more money for them.

"Prior to the economic downturn of 2008 and 2009, we used to have around 600,000

vehicles that were leased annually," Gomes says. "That virtually collapsed and has been slow to recover, and a result, we're having a very significant shortage of used vehicles."

When used-car prices are high, and therefore closer to the cost of a brand-new car, many buyers are likely to spend a little extra to get the new one.

Manufacturers try to keep the difference as small as possible, either by setting lower prices or by offering incentives, so that buyers will choose the new model.

The automakers continually monitor annual car sales and leases, which gives them some idea of how many vehicles will enter the resale market in the future, and how that number will affect the price of used vehicles overall.

"Vehicle affordability is at one of the best levels ever, so it's a great time to buy a vehicle," Gomes says. "However, keep in mind that improved emissions technologies will start to be phased into vehicle prices as well, so expect that the trend of low prices on new cars is likely not here to stay."



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allnewmazda3.ca

ZOOM-ZOOM



metronews.ca
Wednesday, November 27, 2013

Let the wrap artists pimp your ride

Autoknow. An alternative to paint makes the impossible possible and just peels off when you want to make a change

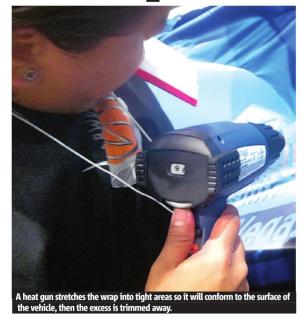
TODD BURLAGE

wheelbasemedia.cor

From iridescent or glow-inthe-dark colours, to leopardskin or zebra-stripe designs, vehicle wraps are changing the way folks with an eye for flair and a few bucks to spend are customizing their rides, all in an effort to make a bold statement with their headturning ideas.

Unique styling options include the friendly clown-fish design from the Disney movie Finding Nemo, while others like the famous flames from the old Matchbox cars take a more macho approach.

Whatever your fancy or design agenda, the changing age of modern vehicle artistry is



evolving from the old-school and expensive paint job to the more creative and relatively affordable full-body vinyl wrap.

Whether for advertising or for nothing more than person-

al preference, Bernie Michaud, president of INCOLOR, Inc., (incolor.ca) explains that vinyl wraps are quickly becoming the design option of choice for business and vehicle owners



who crave visibility, with some flexibility.

"Instead of paying for an \$8,000 paint job, you can do a wrap for about half of that," said Michaud. "And if you decide after a few years you want a different style, it's easy to remove (the wrap) and change it out."

Through advanced computer design and printing, the average car owner can add an intricate pattern, a personalized portrait or a scenic look to their vehicle that would be nearly impossible to paint or outrageously expensive to try.

Colours? Chrome, carbon fibre, lime-green, camouflage; feel free to use the imagination.

A flat or glossy paint look, a combination of the two? Again, there are no boundaries to these designs.

"It's mind-boggling the things you can do now with all the creative options the vinyl wraps offer," Michaud says. "There are tons of advantages going this route, and it's becoming more popular all the time."

Michaud said that the improving technology and durability for these vinyl vehicle wraps hasn't stopped moving in the five years his shop has offered the service.

From more-durable vinyl, to a growing catalog of vehicle templates, to longer-lasting ink, Michaud called the wrap business a "canvas on wheels" and a "rolling billboard."

Vehicle wrapping has become so sophisticated, doit-yourself websites such as custom-car-wraps.com and superwraps.com offer the creative freedom to design a personalized look through a

list of drop down menus with colour and pattern choices.

And while customization is a great touch to individual styling, Michaud says that the greatest advantage to the vehicle wrap over the traditional paint job, believe it or not, is defence against the elements.

"It gives protection from UV-rays, acid rain, light scratches...

"These give you great paint protection. It protects your investment and helps the vehicle hold its resale value."

And business and vehicle owners are taking notice. We've all seen the pink Mary Kay Cadillacs rolling around town? They're now "pink wrapped" instead of painted so when their cosmetic career reaches the end of the road, the vinyl shell can be easily removed to unveil a more desirable silver or grey paint scheme underneath.

If done professionally, the wrapping process is relatively simple. There are basically two methods: partial; and full body.

A partial wrap will "decorate" only a specific area of the vehicle, such as the hood and/ or the doors. This cost-cutting approach is typically used for advertising with company logos, graphics and colours with the vehicle's existing paintjob as the colour background.

Full-body wraps are just that; a bumper-to-bumper design that covers the entire body of the vehicle and gives it an entirely new look.

Wraps are also being used more on back windows with a special kind of perforated vinyl that allows the driver to see out, but shows only the design from the outside looking in.

"This is a fast-growing business and I truly don't see any negatives," Michaud said. "We have only been doing this for about four or five years and the material has already gotten so much better."

Five-year warranties that protect against peeling and bubbling are fairly standard in the wrap business but Michaud said that if properly installed, the lifespan can stretch to about 10 years. The ink on logos and graphics tends to fade some before that, especially in sunny and harsher climates.

As a word of warning for

As a word of warning for those interested in a vehicle wrap, Michaud says to never install one that hasn't been coated with a laminate to help protect the ink from quick fading.

And cost? A good estimate is from \$7 to \$8.50 per square foot for the digitally designed wrap with lamination, and the professional install costs about \$2.50 to \$3 per square foot.

All tallied, a full-body wrap for a full-size van will run about \$4,000, a pickup truck about \$3,500 and a standard passenger car about \$3,000. But given the advertising visibility and advantages, Michaud said these wraps pay for themselves many times

"You get so much more advertising bang for your dollar," he said.

So whether it's to showcase your hotrod or to promote your retail business, the vinyl wrap is finding a tight fit on its place in vehicle design.





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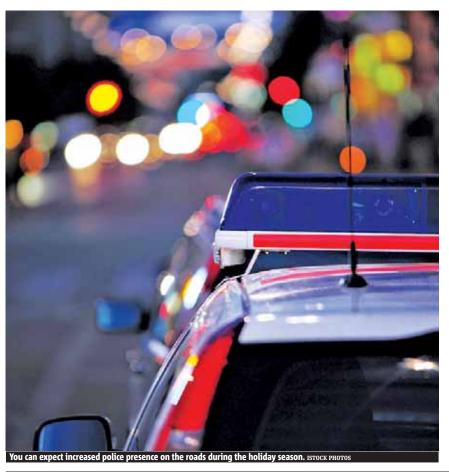
It's time to think German Engineering at vw.ca/whodathought



1-800 DRIVE VW

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metr⊕ **DRIVE**



The problem with drinking and driving is the mourning after

On the road. Before tipping back a few this holiday season, make sure you plan ahead to ensure you get home safe and sound

Keep safe and sober on the roads this season

It doesn't seem to matter how often we talk about the dangers of drinking and driv-Someone, somewhere, isn't listening.

According to statistics provided by the Ontario Provincial Police, impaired driving is the leading criminal cause of death in Canada. And sadly, arrests for impaired driving hit a year-long peak during the final weeks of the year.

For those who haven't

Tips for season

Convertini offers some simple tips to ensure a safe and happy holiday season.

- Plan ahead. If you're likely to consume alcohol at an event or party, don't take your vehicle.
- Use a designated driver. Remember, the "least impaired" person in the

room is not a designated driver.

- Use public transit. If this is not an option, make arrangements to spend the night if you're visiting a friend.
- Use a taxi. There are more than 35,000 operating in Canada.

noticed, the penalties for drinking and driving are considerably tougher, thanks to groups like Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD). Even for first-time offenders, defending a drunk-driving arrest is expensive.

"Everyone recognizes that the holiday season is a

great time to reconnect with family and friends and celebrate with a few drinks," says Mauro Convertini, an insurance expert at Aviva Canada. "It's important, though, to have a plan in place to get yourself and your loved ones home safely. NEWS CANADA

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See today's answers at metronews.ca/answers. BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN

Horoscopes

↑ Aries

March 21 - April 20 Your critical thinking may not be as sharp as it usually is, so be careful what you allow yourself to believe. There are a lot of strange ideas in the world. You also started a few.

Taurus

April 21 - May 21Quick decisions are not always good and the planets warn that you should reserve judgment on important issues unless you are absolutely sure of your stance. Even then, err on the side of caution.

II Gemini

May 22 - June 21 Stop worrying about things over which you have no control. As the Sun moves through your opposite sign, there are a lot of things others say and do that you cannot influence. It's no big deal.

9 Cancer

June 22 - July 23 You could find yourself at a loose end today, uncertain of your next move. Who says you have to move at all? Why not let life come to you for a change. You don't have to be a go-getter all the time.

Ω Leo

July 24 - Aug. 23 It may be tempting to take a risk today but the planets warn you will most likely regret it. There is only one thing you can be sure of at the moment and that is you cannot really be sure of anything.

M Virgo

Aug. 24 - Sept. 23 If you are smart, you will fight the impulse to take a shortcut. If you try to cut corners, you will be asking for trouble and trouble is not the kind of guest to turn down an invitation

△ Libra

Sept. 24 - Oct. 23 You need realize that some kind of scheme is not in the least bit practical. It may be a blow to your ego but there are other useful things you could be doing with your time.

M Scorpio

Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
If you poke your nose into a friend's personal issues you will get no thanks for it at all. no matter how well-intentioned or useful your advice

may be. Some people need to

learn from their own mistakes.

✓ Sagittarius

Nov. 23 - Dec. 21 There are changes taking place in your life and almost all of them are good, so go with the flow and don't be scared to move in a direction you have not been before.

17 Capricorn

Dec. 22 - Jan. 20 There are so many interesting things going on in the world around you that you won't be able to focus on one thing for any length of time. That's OK. Variety is needed to get your creative juices flowing.

Aquarius

Jan. 21 - Feb. 19 Nothing in life stays the same for long so if something (or someone) goes out of your life over the next 24 hours, bid it a fond farewell and start looking for something better to replace it.

⊢ Pisces

Feb. 20 - March 20 Work-related matters must be

handled with care, especially if you are one of those Pisceans who tends to be a bit reckless in your attitude towards people in positions of power. SALLY BROMPTON

Crossword: Canada Across and Down

Across

- 1. Posh title 6. Much, slangy-ly
- 11. Hat
- 14. Trees: White
- poplar 15. Off-Broadway
- theatrical awards
- 16. Have payments
- 17. Bungle
- 18. Prescription warning, __ _ directed 19. Campaigned
- 20. Paving stone 21. Perish
- 22. Newfoundland's official bird, Atlantic
- 24. Way out there 26. "Indoors (Summer eater's
- query) 27. Drenched: 2 wds.
- 29. Ballotings
- 31. Ms. Rimes 32. Siestas
- 33. Fasten to the bulletin board
- 37. Do the tango
- 38. Mel of baseball
- 39. Capital of India, New
- 40. Mr. Hershiser
- 41. "Je ne __ quoi." 42. Remixer/produ-
- cer, William
- 43. Prefix to 'dontist' (Braces giver)
- 45. Horrified 46. __-_ agent (Former employee at
- The Company)
- 48. Famous casino in Las Vegas, Golden

32 33 35 37 38 40 43 60 61

50. Country star Dwight 51. CSI evidence

- 52. Saran
- 55. Keyboard key
- 56. Country classic: "By the ___ Get to Phoenix'
- 58. LED = Light-Emitting
- - 61. ___ in the air (That's still uncertain)
- 63. Big bags 64. Sailing: 2 wds.

62. Ski hill machine,

59. Plum part

60. Put on

(Fake it)

-Cat

Down

- 1. Chef Emeril Lagasse's sounds! 2. Classic comic strip,
- the Agent 3. Dermatology: Type of injectable filler
- 4. Functional landmark in Halifax since 1803: 3 wds.
- 6. 1963 The Kingsmen hit, when doubled 7. Calgary Tower's dazzling rotating
- feature: 2 wds. 8. Fasten 9. Some spouts spots

5. Modern

10. Guarantee 11. 1921: Greek island

- where Prince Philip was born
- 12. Expect 13. Sean of movies
- 21. Banned pesticide
- 23. Canadian
- hockey play-by-play
- broadcasting legend,
- b.1902 d.1985: 2
- wds.
- 25. Reality star Ms.
- Leakes 27. Canadian shoe
- store
- 28. Shakespeare
- tragedy, King
- 30. Selects
- 32. Mr. Wyle
- 34. Seabird 35. Vitalities
- 36. "Knight Rider" car
- 39. Actor/rapper, Snoop
- 41. Endurance
- 44. Lariats 45. Title in Turkey
- 46. Reddish-rose dye
- 47. _-_ knife
- 49. Segments 50. Slangy positives
- 53. ___ (Together, in music)
- 54. "Shoop" by Salt-
- 57. Fleetwood
- 58. Wee width

esterday's Crossword

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How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.

8	5	5	1	9	3	7	4	6
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6	7	9	8	2	4	5	1	3
7	5	4	2	3	8	9	6	1
2	1	8	9	5	6	3	7	4
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TODAY

MAX: 3°

THURSDAY

MIN: -5°

MAX: -1°

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